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NATO APPREHENSIONS, DIVISIONS OVER SDI VIEWED

PM190910 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 15, Apr 85 pp 10-11

[Yu. Gudkov article: "Causes of Disagreement"]

[Text] Richard Perle, U.S. assistant secretary of defence, publicly scolded Geoffrey Howe, British foreign secretary, in a speech made during a visit to London. The British side admitted that the incident was unprecedented, but decided not to make a fuss. A U.S. Embassy spokesman declined to say whether Perle's speech had been sanctioned by Washington. The British Foreign Office declined to regard it as official.

However, there was a sequel to the affair. The U.S. ambassador in London met with Howe, this time undoubtedly with Washington's sanction -- but not only to tender belated apologies. According to an official communique, they discussed Howe's recent speech at the Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies on the implications of Reagan's "star wars" programme -- the very speech that had evoked Perle's displeasure. After the meeting with the ambassador, Howe reverted to a more streamlined official position in his prepared speech in Paris and later in his interviews to two West German papers.

Can the incident be considered closed? Hardly.

The disagreement clearly formulated by London cannot be seen as episodic. The apprehensions aroused by U.S. policy are too serious to be dismissed even for the sake of Atlantic solidarity, his loyality to which Howe stressed so emphatically in Paris. In an effort to explain the cause of the open flare-up of differences, the London Times pointed out that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's credo consisted in combining outward support for Reagan's "star wars" programme with private warings. In his speech Howe voiced his concern over the fact that Britain's reservations had passed unnoticed. The director of the Royal Institute of International Affairs put it more bluntly. The "star wars" programme, he said, is "the most potentially divisive issue the NATO alliance has faced."

In his speech, Geoffrey Howe set forth for the first time substantively -- and publicly -- the causes of these divisions. Their list, in itself, amounts to a military-political assessment of the programme and of its likely consequences for the world community. While admitting that the programme proceeds from a concept which may, in the final analysis, prove unrealizable, Howe does not see that as grounds for complacency and is of the opinion that "research may acquire an unstoppable momentum of its own. We must take care that political decisions are not preempted by the march of technology."

This is not just caution. Recent history knows of many instances of the "necessity" and "expediency" of this or that weapon being argued for after the weapon was already past the development stage and about to go into production. (Former secretary of state Henry Kissinger in his time insisted that the MX missile should not be taken seriously, it was only a trump card at negotiations, he averred.) In line with this practice, the Americans brush aside all objections to the "star wars" programme and decline to discuss it on the grounds that it is still a "research project."

Such an approach is apparently aimed at obscuring the fact that this is research of a highly specific kind. The intellectual prowess of the nation's best brains and enormous sums of money are being channelled to an effort that can only lead, in the final analysis, to a new arms buildup spiral -- the costliest and the most dangerous ever. Hence the urgency of the "political decisions."

There indeed is no time to lose, for Washington has already made up its mind. Caspar Weinberger, U.S. secretary of defence, said he ruled out the possibility of renouncing the strategic defence concept either at the research stage, or, if it proves realistic, at the deployment stage.

It is in place to recall that under the agreement reached during Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's visit to the United States, the deployment of the anti-ballistic missile defence systems (after they emerge from the research stage) is subject to discussion at negotiations among the NATO member states. Weinberger's statement ignores this agreement and turns it into a mere formality.

Incidentally, the United States' true attitude to such commitments can be judged by its plans for the deployment of nuclear weapons in Canada, Iceland, Puerto Rico and other countries, plans adopted not only without the consent of the governments concerned, but even in secret from them (just as the "star wars" programme was announced by the U.S. without any preliminary consultations with its allies). It logically follows from the above that the emphasis on the research aspect of the programme is designed to divert the attention from its true character and gradually to accustom the public to the idea that a new arms spiral is inevitable.

The absence of "political decisions" at this juncture gives the green light to a very dangerous scheme. If the scientific and technical problems involved in this scheme are solved, Howe says, there will be the risk of "a radical alteration of the present basis for Western security." "Could the process of moving towards a greater emphasis on active defences by managed without generating dangerous uncertainty?" he asks and recalls that in his "star wars" speech in March 1983 Ronald Reagan admitted that "a mix of offensive and defensive systems could be 'viewed as fostering an aggressive policy.'"

Up till now, "deterrents" guaranteed an approximate parity of nuclear forces, which meant that retaliation to aggression would be intended to upset this parity, thus creating a threat to the whole of humanity.

In the first place, by giving the illusion of invulnerability the "space shield" may prove to be a temptation to deliver the first strike, which would trigger off a nuclear war. Secondly, we know from history that to every action there is a counteraction. This means a further buildup of offensive nuclear weapons in the world in addition to the huge stockpiles already existing.

In his "star wars" speech Reagan said that space defence would make offensive weapons unnecessary. This assertion, now widely used by the propaganda media, is utterly false, and the example of the U.S. itself bears this out. The battle in Congress over the allocations for another batch of MX missiles ended in the defeat of their opponents. The U.S. is thus speeding up the development of the latest and the most destructive offensive weapons. Add to this the D-5 missiles for the Trident submarines which are to remove the chief shortcoming of sea-based nuclear missiles - low aiming accuracy. Add also the B-1 and Stealth bombers.

On the drawing boards now are cruise missiles, tactical nuclear facilities and other weapons against which even the best of "space shields" can offer no protection. This is another channel for carrying on the arms race which the "star wars" programme can only intensify.

What's more, the London Observer reports that a top-secret programme for the development of "means of penetration," intended to outdate the as yet nonexistent anti-ballistic missile system, is being carried out at the Norton Air Force Base, California.

"The implications for arms control must also be carefully considered," Howe says. "Would the prospect of new defences being deployed inexorably crank up the levels of offensive nuclear systems designed to overwhelm them?" This is a legitimate, though rhetorical, question. The answer to it has been given by the American side, which believes that the road to disarmament lies through superarmament.

The 1972 treaty on limiting anti-ballistic missile defence system, described by Howe as "the keystone in the still shaky arch of security," is supposed to close all openings for the spread of the arms race to new fields. Today this treaty is already listed among the victims of President Reagan's "defence initiative." In the U.S. this is done quite brazenly.

It is not by chance, therefore, that the Soviet side has been insisting, from the very beginning, on discussing the problems of space and nuclear arms (both strategic and medium-range) in their interconnection. Geoffrey Howe also underscores the "integral relationship" between them. And developments confirm the need for such an approach. More, they show that the renunciation or the de facto violation of this understanding (the U.S. makes no secret of such an intention) will make the talks a cover for militaristic preparations. In any case, it is easy to see that while seeking "consent to the restructuring of the foundations of strategic stability," the United States is trying not only to impose the militarization of space on the world, but also to keep intact its $1.5-trillion programme for the renewal of its arsenal -- the nuclear missile arsenal, above all.

As we see, the doubts besetting official London relate to a vital sphere of state interests. These doubts are shared by other West European capitals. In Paris, the prospect of the military-strategic situation being destabilized, and of the arms race getting out of control and of the expenses involved running into astronomical figures, have already caused serious anxiety. At a March 22 press conference, Roland Dumas, France's minister for external relations, put it plainly: "The American plan does not only lead to superarmament, which the militarization of space would amount to -- and, consequently not only add to the risk and danger -- it does not accord with the desire for a guaranteed security."

Bonn wonders about the fate of its "Ostpolitik," about the role assigned to Europe in America's plans to "space-shield" itself from a nuclear war -- and voices the hope that the Geneva arms talks will render the "star wars" programme unnecessary. "More stable U.S.-Soviet relations are of decisive importance for fruitful development in Europe," a government statement of March 28 says. At a Munich seminar on military matters -- which snowdrifts in London kept Caspar Weinberger from attending -- "the converts to the American point of view might have fitted comfortably in the back of the NATO jeep," the New York Newsweek ironically commented.

It looks as if Washington did not expect the disagreement to be made public. Hence the sharp increase in pressure. U.S. representatives, from Weinberger and General James Abrahamson, who is responsible for the implementation of the "star wars" plan, to middle-ranking officials, are besieging West European capitals. A session of the Nuclear Planning Group in Luxembourg was used to secure, within the 60-day period set by Washington, the group's consent to the "star wars" programme and to impose a common commitment on the doubting and the vacillating. A series of bilateral talks were to be held after the session closed. Letters have been circulated to 17 governments demanding that they subscribe to Reagan's "initiative." So far results have not been too conclusive. Luxembourg has announced acceptance in principle of the SDI. West Germany, however, has replied that it will not give a definite answer before the deadline set. Greece is opposed. Spain has decided not to commit itself. France and Israel keep silent so far. Australia has answered in the negative.

However, the pressure continues and will be increased in the coming weeks. And not only in the political sphere. Seeking to calm fears that the "star wars" plan assigns the role of theatre of hostilities to the European continent, Washington has promised to consider setting up a "tactical nuclear defence system" for its NATO partners. Big hopes are pinned on financial bail. Fat contracts to be funded from the $26 billion allocated for research are being offered to West European companies not least of all with a view to capitalizing on the considerable influence they have in government circles.

All this naturally has its effect, but does not change the substance of the matter. Whatever maneuvers Washington, as well as its partners, who have to reckon with public opinion, might resort to, the problems and risks engendered by the Reagan "initiative" remain. Howe's unusally frank statement amounted to recognition of this fact, and was prompted, no doubt, by the extraordinary gravity of the situation. The fate of international relations in the coming decades is at stake.

The Reagan Administration has won the battle in Congress over allocations for the further production of the MX missiles. However, the very sharpness of such debates has shown, once again, that the further buildup of nuclear missiles is steadily losing support even in the top echelons of power which have to reckon with the anti-war movement unprecedented for its determination and scope. The transfer of the arms race to outer space under the pretext of changing its character from offensive to defensive spells the continuation of this race on an unheard-of scale. It guarantees further existence of and more profits to the military-industrial complex. At the same time, the Washington "initiative" multiplies the dangers threatening the true national interests of all countries without exception. To blindly follow that initiative means to betray these interests.

L. Ponomarev Commentary

LD201624 Moscow TASS in English 1610 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] Moscow April 20 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

According to an AP agency report, the Belgian Government has refuted claims in the press recently that Belgium "agrees in principle" to participate in the first stage of "research" according to Reagan's "star wars" programme. The AP quotes the statement by the office of the Belgian prime minister as saying that the Belgian Government "has not yet discussed" the possibility of such a participation.

Caspar Weinberger, U.S. secretary of defence, is known to demand last month almost in the form of an ultimatum that the allies of the United States in NATO should join in research work according to the "star wars" programme and give the U.S. Administration an answer on that issue within 60 days. The point at issue is, however, that President Reagan's "Strategic Defence Initiative", as the American programme for "star wars" preparations is euphemistically called, is far from being such a harmless venture as the American leaders are trying to present it.

The "Strategic Defence Initiative" programme is nothing else but camouflaged plans to militarize outer space in order to wage "star wars" against the socialist countries. Way back in January this year, when reports appeared that President Reagan had signed the notorious Directive 119 on the start of the so-called research into the creation of a large-scale anti-missile system with space-based elements, the newspaper WASHINGTON POST wrote that the term "research" is just a euphemism and everybody realized (sic) that certain research and development was to be made.

The direction of this effort can be seen at least from the statement made in March this year by Fred Ikle, U.S. under-secretary of defence for political issues, at a conference of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States. Ikle described as a "mistake" the agreements reached between the USA and the Soviet Union in the last decade, including the anti-missile defence treaty of 1972. The practical steps of the current Washington's administration show that it has embarked on the path of bypassing these agreements and, in the final analysis, of torpedoing them. The space militarisation programme is evidence of precisely this policy of the United States.

The West European allies cannot, naturally, but see the hypocrisy of official Washington claiming that it has a vested interest in putting an end to the nuclear weapons race and is concerned only with "defence." Reagan's "star wars" programme is a source of doubt in Europe as regards the prudence of such designs and also of serious apprehension that a militarisation of outer space will boost the weapons race in all directions. Then it will be senseless to speak of any arms control in outer space.

The Norwegian Government has weighed these circumstances and announced that Norway refuses to participate in the "star wars" research programme. According to the Norwegian press, an overwhelming majority of the country's population demands that the government strongly condemn the dangerous plans of the United States to militarize outer space. The Danish Folketinget (parliament) has decided by a majority vote that the government should oppose Denmark's participation in research into the development of space weapons.

All this indicates that the Europeans are by no means indifferent whether they will be drawn into the American plans of a militarisation of outer space or not. Historical experience and common sense prompt that it is necessary to close all channels of putting any types of weapons in outer space.

U.S. LACKS 'POLITICAL WILL' FOR DISARMAMENT

LD191425 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1340 GMT 19 Apr 85

["Propaganda Trick" -- TASS headline]

[Text] [No dateline as received] Soviet peace initiatives aimed at halting the arms race and then reducing stockpiled weapons continue to be actively discussed among broad political and public circles of the world. In the view of many political figures and specialists, the Soviet Union has taken a brave and constructive step, dictated by its striving for honest dialogue and for the creation of favorable conditions for achieving constructive results at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva.

Officials in the United States perceive the Soviet proposals in a different way. In the last few days, members of the U.S. Administration have presented the matter in their public statements in such a way as to show the Soviet Union allegedly engaging in propaganda through its proposals. It is fitting to recall in this connection that such a method is not a new one. When Washington does not want to agree with the opinion of an opponent the opponent's arguments are related to propaganda, thus giving the arguments a negative content. When it begins to be a matter of the U.S. position, then "glittering generalities" from the arsenal of peace-loving rhetoric accompany talks on the subject.

Let us return to the essence of the matter. In the words of Kenneth Adelman, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, the Soviet Union "instead of serious talks," has allegedly engaged in a "propaganda approach" since the moratorium it declared "signifies a preservation of the Russian advantage."

If such assertions had been heard from the lips of someone who was unfamiliar with figures and facts and with the problem under consideration, one could pass over them without paying any attention. However the point is that such fabrications pass into the speeches of other figures in the U.S. Administration. Any number of absurdities are set in motion, from assertions that the Soviet Union is attempting to undermine "NATO efforts to strengthen its defense" to accusations that the aim of the USSR is "to freeze the imbalance in Europe." As for Adelman, his position in passing on appropriate recommendations to the U.S. Administration on questions of disarmament and control is far from being a minor one.

It is not worthwhile to look at the figures. They are well known and reflect an immutable fact: There is a parity between the USSR and NATO, an approximate equality in the main types of armaments. This is recorded in Soviet-U.S. documents of the not so distant past and confirmed by the opinions of a number of American representatives as well. The point here is something else. The political will is necessary, first and foremost, to resolve such responsible questions as disarmament. There is not enough of it on the U.S. side, as is evidenced by Adelman's speech.

[Signed] (TASS)

ANALYST CALLS FOR HALT TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTING

LD191845 Moscow TASS in English 1815 GMT 19 Apr 85

[Text] Moscow April 19 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

A universal and complete prohibition of nuclear weapons tests could make it possible substantially to slow down and eventually to reverse the arms race and to give a strong impetus to the efforts to achieve accords in lessening the danger of nuclear war.

Concrete positive results had been achieved by the end of 1980 at the tripartite talks on that problem with the participation of the USSR, the USA and Britain. Agreement had been virtually reached on the entire text of the future treaty and effective verification procedures had been worked out. Washington, however, unilaterally broke off those talks and later admitted that the United States "will have to conduct testing for a long time yet" to develop new weapons systems and to modernise old ones.

The Soviet Union more than once proposed to the USA and other nuclear powers that an end be put to all nuclear weapons tests. The USSR is making energetic efforts to create auspicious conditions for the achievement of progress in this field. Replying to a recent address of the leaders of the U.S. organisation known as the Centre for Defence Information, the Soviet side stressed, in particular, that a freeze on any nuclear explosions by all the nuclear powers beginning with an agreed-upon date is a practicable measure which could become a substantial contribution towards folding up the nuclear arms race.

The achievement of an appropriate accord would lessen the possibility of the actual use of nuclear weapons. Even the Pentagon leaders with their fondness for adventuristic armed actions admit that the use of untested nuclear weapons involves high risks for the side planning the first nuclear strike. A freeze on nuclear explosions could contribute to strengthening the non-proliferation regime as well. It is common knowledge that a number of countries, including South Africa, Pakistan and Israel, are conducting research to develop nuclear potentials. The risks involved in the uncontrollable growth of the number of nuclear powers are perfectly obvious. The freeze therefore could contribute to a better overall climate in relations between states with different social systems.

The Soviet reply to the leaders of the Centre for Defence Information reiterates the Soviet Union's readiness immediately to resume talks on the complete and univeral prohibition of nuclear weapons tests. The Soviet Union also suggests that the agreement on nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes and the threshold agreement on nuclear weapons tests signed in 1974 and 1976 be put into effect. The United States refused to ratify those treaties, thus compromising its reputation of an honest partner in talks.

Washington is again offered the possibility to take the first practical step in the past four years to fulfil the commitment assumed by the United States in 1963 to achieve for ever the prohibition of all nuclear weapons tests.

The world public expects a positive reply from the USA.

U.S. BUILDS UP, INTRODUCES NEW CHEMICAL WEAPONS

LD201346 Moscow TASS in English 1319 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] Moscow April 20 TASS -- TASS commentator Vasiliy Kharkov writes:

The Pentagon refuses to have a ban put on such barbarous means of mass annihilation as chemical weapons and is accelerating the buildup of arsenals of these weapons. And first of all by introducing a new and most dangerous variety of these weapons -- binary weapons filled with a lethal mixture of nerve gas. The United States Administration is seeking from Congress an allocation of 174 million dollars in the 1986 fiscal year to produce such weapons. On the whole, during the coming five years Washington intends to spend 2.3 billion dollars on the production of binary chemical munitions.

Already today, as it is seen from the American press, the United States has three million units of chemical munitions. It is planned to increase this number to five million in the coming years. Binary weapons are to become the main component for expanding and renewing the Pentagon's chemical arsenals.

It is intended to deploy these weapons outside of the United States, first of all in Western Europe and also in some parts of Asia. The construction of storages has already been started. Thus, such a base is reportedly being created at the biggest military complex of the United States in the Indian Ocean Basin -- Diego Garcia.

Considering the very great population density in the areas where American chemical weapons are to be stored, it is not difficult to imagine that they pose a no lesser danger than nuclear arms.

It is one of the most important tasks in the field of arms limitation and disarmament to banish chemical weapons. It is not by chance that already in the 1925 Geneva protocol the world community outlawed chemical warfare. It took the United States fifty years to accede to that protocol. Meantime the United States extensively used toxic substances in Indochina, killing and maiming hundreds of thousands of peoples and inflicting irreparable ecological damage to that region.

Now, too, Washington allots chemical weapons an important place in its military plans. And exactly this determines the striving of the administration to speed up the 10-billion-dollar programme of the chemical rearming of the United States and to get within the framework of this programme's implementation the means to deploy the most inhuman generation of these weapons -- binary munitions.

The overwhelming majority of states in the world resolutely comes out for stopping the production and destroying the existing stockpiles of chemical weapons, for banning the development of new types of such weapons. This striving found its expression in United Nations resolutions on this question, in the work of the Geneva session on disarmament whose participants could start concrete work to formulate a relevant convention the main provisions of which were suggested by the Soviet Union already three years ago. But Washington's obstructionist tactics blocked this work. And facts show that this was done to give a "green light" to the chemical rearming of the United States.

PENTAGON REPORTS ABM SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS

LD191748 Moscow TASS in English 1520 GMT 19 Apr 85

[Text] Washington April 19 TASS -- The Pentagon notes in a report released here that "considerable progress" has been achieved in the development and deployment of a large space-based ABM system. The authors of the document attach particular importance to "success" in the development of high-energy particle-beam weapons intended to shoot down enemy ballistic missiles. A senior official of the U.S. Defense Department, one of those personally responsible for the implementation of Reagan's "Strategic Defence Initiative," has admitted that progress is so good that particle-beam weapons already can be deployed in orbit.

The authors of the report also characterise as a success the development of special electromagnetic sensors and materials used to build a different components of space "defences." The report concludes that these "achievements" make it possible considerably to intensify preparations for military programs in space. The Reagan administration requests from Congress 3.7 billion dollars for that purpose in 1986, which is almost three times the sum spent this year.

COMPARISON OF HELSINKI NONPROLIFERATION TALKS

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 20 April carries in its Morning Edition on page 4 a TASS report on USSR-U.S. nuclear nonproliferation talks in Helsinki, entitled "Latest Round of Consultations." It has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version published in the 19 April Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page AA 3, revealing the following variations:

Paragraph one, last line, IZVESTIYA reads: ...of nuclear weapons.

Taking part in the consultations were: on the Soviet side -- A.M. Petrosyants, chairman of the USSR State Committee for the Utilization of Atomic Energy, and Ambassador V.F. Petrovskiy, member of the USSR Foreign Ministry Collegium; on the U.S. side -- special envoy R. Kennedy, J. Mares, assistant secretary of energy; and L. Dunn, assistant director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency.

The sides have...(picking up paragraph two, line one, supplying list of participants)

Paragraph two, line two, IZVESTIYA reads: ...of nuclear weapons.... (IZVESTIYA ends)

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD211645 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 21 Apr 85

["International Observers Roundtable" program with political observers Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich Bovin and Nikolay Vladimirovich Shishlin, and All-Union Radio commentator Viktor Nikolayevich Levin]

[Text] [Levin] Hello, esteemed comrade listeners. During April there are various events in many countries connected with the 40th anniversary of the great victory. In Hungary there was a meeting of the WFTU Bureau, at which it was noted that the victory over German fascism was of enormous importance for the working class. In Berlin there was a scientific conference on the significance of the Soviet Union's victory over Hitlerite fascism and the liberation of the German people from fascism. In particular, Comrade Axen, member of the Politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, stressed at the conference that mankind is grateful to the Soviet Union for the fact that the day of the great victory and liberation of the German people from fascism has become a red-letter day of humanism and freedom. The USSR waged a struggle on a decisive front and suffered the main burden of World War II. Worthy of note, too, was a speech in Milan by Alessandro Natta, secretary general of the Italian Communist Party. In this speech, delivered a few days ago, Comrade Natta said that those days in April 40 years ago were great days of the approaching victory over fascism and nazism both in Italy and throughout the whole of Europe. Today we should remember that event which initiated a whole new stage in the history of Europe and of Italy -- an event that to this day we feel to be something belonging to the present, something alive and having an effect, and not simply the object of recollections, of research by learned men and solemn ceremonies, a remote episode that has disappeared into the past once and for all.

[Bovin] It is a very important idea that the victory really did initiate a new stage in the history of mankind, because it led to a major rearrangement of the social picture of the world, the formation of the world system of socialism and the collapse of colonialism. It is the fact that the victory was followed by this stage that is the source, I would say, of the very different attitudes toward that victory. For some people, it really is something to celebrate, marking a new step, a new stage, in the development of history; while for others, it is something distressing, because events began to develop clearly not in the direction that Churchill or Truman, for example, would have liked. So we now see in the West quite a lot of false interpretations at different levels about the victory and deliberations on the subject of whether it is worth celebrating at all.

In the background to this, some rather strange things happen. You have probably all heard, comrades, about the incident with Reagan, which has not quite ended yet. If the U.S. President had especially decided, for reasons unknown, to do himself political and moral damage, then I don't think he could have thought of anything more effective than to say that he was going to lay a wreath at a cemetery for German soldiers, including SS men, at Bitburg in the FRG. What makes the situation interesting is the fact that buried there are those same SS men who took part in the battles during the Ardennes operation. During that operation 70,000 American soldiers, I believe, were killed; many others were taken prisoner, and in fact executed by SS men by shooting. Then, of all things, he has the idea of going to that cemetery and laying wreathes there as a token of reconciliation. Protests were raised in the United States itself, with both veterans and public organizations writing and protesting.

[Levin] Some 53 senators signed a letter of protest.

[Bovin] The letter, yes. Previously, the idea had been to visit Dachau concentration camp, which is truly a symbol of the victims of fascism and would have been logical. Then instead of Dachau, this Bitburg was chosen. Now, however, of course, Reagan has evidently decided after all that he will visit both the cemetary -- which so far he is not rejecting -- and a concentration camp. At present they are choosing which one: there is Dachau, then there is a concentration camp called Bergen-Belsen, and then yet another at Flossenburg. They are choosing between the three of them. However, the fact that this problem arose in the first place is completely wrong.

[Shishlin] Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich, we should of course add to this that we want to have a serious attitude not only toward history, but to the present as well -- a present when there are quite a lot of alarming things, when there are also certain hopes, but when there is a continuing struggle for the same aims of freedom, democracy, and national independence for which the great battle against fascism was fought. So the celebration of the 40th anniversary of victory itself represents not only a tribute of grateful memory to those heroes who won the great fight, but also a sort of political point to ponder in the battle today to improve international relations and the world political climate, which is being waged persistently and consistently by our country, our friends and allies, broad peace-loving public forces and sober-minded political circles in the Western countries. In the world today there are truly many alarming things, but things which alarm are the first step toward understanding the need for action to put international relations on an even keel.

It is appropriate to talk about these questions because it is a fact that in international life the main problem has been and remains the problem of limiting and reducing the arms race and the destiny of those multifaceted efforts that are made on many levels by the socialist world and by us to limit and curtail the arms race. Recently, as everyone knows, the Soviet Union proposed a great number of initiatives, quite remarkable ones. Some of them have simply been taken unilaterally: in particular, this goes for the moratorium on stationing our medium-range nuclear weapons.

[Levin] I would like to recall, comrades, the essence of those initiatives. We are proposing that for the entire duration of the Geneva talks, the USSR and the United States place a moratorium on the creation, including scientific research work, and the testing and deployment of space strike weapons, and that they freeze their strategic offensive weapons. At the same time, the deployment of the U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe and, correspondingly, the buildup of our countermeasures, would be stopped. We are ready to demonstrate goodwill, too, by specific action. To this end, the Soviet Union has announced a moratorium on the deployment of its medium-range missiles and the suspension of its other countermeasures being implemented in Europe. The moratorium remains in force until this November. The decision that we make after that depends on whether the United States will follow our example, and whether or not it will stop the deployment of its medium-range missiles in Europe.

[Shishlin] Along the same lines was the recent reaction by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium to the proposal to place a moratorium on nuclear tests, a full moratorium: as we all know, only underground tests are permitted, while they have long been banned on land, at sea, and in the sky.

[Bovin] Here our U.S. partners at Geneva are again saying no to all our proposals of this kind.

[Shishlin] Yes, and so I have the question -- and maybe we can try to answer it among ourselves -- that if the United States reacts negatively to the Soviet initiatives and the Soviet unilateral action aimed at reducing tension, then are those initiatives justified, is that action justified?

[Bovin] Of course, the action is justified, because it draws the attention of public opinion to those very problems that can be resolved in the very shortest space of time. Take now, for example, the problem of reducing nuclear potentials: you can spend 1, 2 or 3 years working on it. But to freeze the current levels, for example, to put a ban on tests -- that could be done in just a few days, because the text of a treaty on nuclear tests had almost been completely prepared. The Americans then left the talks, and some 5 percent of the work was left uncompleted. But this could literally be done in a few weeks. That is why we are suggesting that this should be done. At the same time, however, there is a logic in their rejection of it. At Geneva they talk about disarmament, but at home they are engaged in rearming. And since they are making new missiles, since they are modernizing the warheads for those missiles, then they have to test them. That is their logic. The Pentagon is insisting that these tests be carried out, otherwise the brakes will be put on the modernization program.

[Shishlin] In asking that question, I deliberately wanted to reveal the problem that is facing us. In essence, the Soviet Union really does attach very great importance to Soviet-U.S. relations and strives to ensure that those relations return to a healthy course. But I would like to draw the attention of our listeners to the fact that the fate of world politics is decided not just within the framework of Soviet-U.S. relations. In the light of this, the unilateral Soviet action and the Soviet proposals aimed at achieving a sharp turnabout in the development of international relations are, of course, addressed to the world at large. I believe that the initiatives proposed by the Soviet Union are not limited by the American reaction in this respect. Essentially, we can state that in West Europe, and not only there, these initiatives have received both understanding and support.

[Bovin] This is, of course, a slightly more complicated issue, because the government circles of Western Europe in general aligned themselves with the Americans here. The NATO discipline has not been broken here, but the gradual increase in public pressure will affect policies of the governments, although it might not happen at once, perhaps, not as soon as we would like to see it happen, or as effectively, but it is still one of the most important factors in world politics now.

[Levin] It would suffice to mention that meeting of the Socialist International, for instance, where the socialist parties assumed quite a concrete stand toward Reagan's "star wars" program; they reject this initiative. The ominous nature of these plans is evident. It is necessary to say that U.S. propaganda resorts to various inventions in its attempts to justify the "star wars" program. In his talk with the PRAVDA editor, Comrade Gorbachev described these arguments as fictitious. Indeed, they talk about defense while making preparations for an offensive, advertise the space shield while forging the space sword, promise to eliminate nuclear weapons while building them up and perfecting them in practice, give promises of stability to the world while working to upset the military balance. An understanding of the profound danger that is concealed in the "star wars" program leads to an increase in protests against these ominous plans.

Let's take another event that took place this week: The Government of Iceland's decision to not allow U.S. and British ships carrying nuclear weapons to enter the country's waters. A propos, such a question often arises here, and this question is contained in some letters we receive from our listeners: What can the antiwar movement achieve? They make speeches, the letters say, and organize demonstrations and meetings; but nevetheless, the NATO circles realize their militarist plans. However, the impact of the antiwar movement on the political atmosphere is quite strong. In particular, the decision by the Icelandic Government meets the demands of wide popular masses of not only that country, but of other Western European states as well, and when this decision is being analyzed in the West, it is noted that a similar decision has already been made by the Government of New Zealand. But there are also some differences between the positions of the Icelandic and New Zealand Governments. Iceland is a member of NATO.

[Bovin] On the other hand, New Zealand is also a member of the ANZUS group...

[Levin, interrupting] Yes, beyond any doubt, but...

[Bovin, interrupting] This is also a kind of NATO, with the only difference that it is small, for three states.

[Levin] This is exactly the case when it is a chip off the old block.

[Bovin] That is true. Besides that, the reason why the Americans were very unhappy with the decision of New Zealand then, is that they were afraid of exactly this effect of infection, so to speak, of the possibility that this fear would spread to other countries. We see the first results in Iceland.

[Shishlin] We cannot help evoking the memory of the fact that just last week the Norwegian Government drew a distinctive line quite clearly between its own approach to the Strategic Defense Initiative and the U.S. approach. Norwegians simply stated that they were not going to participate in the realization of this "star wars" plan.

[Levin] So, there are some shades of difference in the NATO discipline as well, after all. As long as we have touched upon this problem, we also cannot omit the fact that just this week, the issue of participation in realizing Reagan's strategic initiative was discussed in the West German Bundestag, where Chancellor Kohl made a speech. The position of the FRG Government on this issue is quite clear, and had also been presented before. To judge from the DPA reports, Kohl assumed the following stand: We, together with all West European states, are ready to take part in the realization of this program, this is necessary in order not to permit ourselves to fall behind in science and technology, and so on and so forth, but in general the FRG Government supports Reagan's program. This invites severe criticism on the part of the Social Democrats, on the part of the Greens, to say nothing about the Communists. This issue attracted much attention during the visit of the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation to the Federal Republic of Germany. It was noted there that the questions of security are the basis of the further development of our relations. Of course, we have stated with satisfaction, for instance, that the FRG Government states its adherence to the Moscow treaty, to other treaties with socialist countries. This, beyond any doubt, is a positive factor and a pleasing phenomenon, but at the same time, we cannot ignore the fact that recently the level of FRG activity in support of U.S. military programs has grown considerably. U.S. policy toward its partners is expressed quite clearly; it is a policy of pressure. This policy of pressure reveals itself in even a more evident way; the pressure is not limited by any framework of normal international relations, when, let us put it this way, those governments that do not suit Washington are involved, that are not suitable according to the personal ideas of U.S. politicians.

[Bovin] Reagan was once very indignant over the fact that a stamp was issued in Nicaragua featuring Karl Marx' portrait. After all, for him it was a sign of the terrible nature of the Sandinist government. It was exactly the way he stated it: Now, look, this terrible government has issued a stamp depicting Karl Marx. It would be all right if he limited himself to words, but behind these words there is quite a wide program of destabilizing the situation in Nicaragua. Just this week, U.S. newspapers published a report passed by Reagan to the Congress as early as 3 April.

He puts forward two variants of U.S. strategy. First, as he puts it, the strategy of containment; that is, we do not exert active pressure on the Sandinists, but we strengthen the Armies of Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala force Costa Rica to create its own army which it does not have at present, and we encircle Nicaragua with this, as he called it, cordon sanitaire. This variant Reagan himself considers to be passive, inert, and hardly able to change the situation in Nicaragua. That is why there is a second variant he recommends; this is a strategy of effective pressure on Nicaragua. Military support of the contras and an economic blockade of Nicaragua fit this strategy, as well as everything connected with it and everything that is presented in Reagan's plan of 4 April, which you know about. Here, a situation arises which is absolutely unthinkable from the point of view of modern concepts of law. The United States has normal diplomatic relations with Nicaragua, it is in no state of war with Nicaragua. Nevertheless, it is allowing itself to support the armed gangs that fight against the Sandinist Government of Nicaragua in an open way.

[Levin] They want to legalize it through the Congress.

[Bovin] Incidentally, voting is to take place in Congress on Wednesday. The situation is very unclear yet, but in general it is quite likely that Reagan will suffer a defeat there. The sum involved, although it is not large, is $14 million.

[Levin] This is but a symbol, beyond any doubt, but it is a desire to legalize the policy of interference.

[Bovin] Yes, yes. The majority of the Latin American states resolutely rejects any idea of military interference by Americans in what is going on in Nicaragua. Pinochet and Stroessner, say, may support it, but Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, and Colombia are most definitely against it. As far as the direct intervention is concerned, yes, certainly, Americans are now saying, we are not going to do it ever, but I am still inclined to believe that in some drastic situation they could do so. After all, there was Grenada, and there was Vietnam, where they got bogged down. So I wouldn't rule out such a prospect.

[Shishlin] Although in essence the United States is already now pursuing a truly terrorist policy with regard to Nicaragua.

[Bovin] Of course.

[Shishlin] There's the economic brigandry, whereby they are essentially simply trying to stifle the country economically and create intolerable difficulties for its peaceful, creative labor, and whereby they are essentially trying to disorganize public life in the country, organizing, financing and sending in all these bands. Of course, they are keeping the country in a constant state of tension by carrying out all sorts of maneuvers as a show of force, applying military pressure and so forth. It is state terrorism.

[Bovin] That's right. Then they say, "Well, how can that be? After all, look at the large, sturdy Army that Nicaragua has! That's a strange attitude. First of all, any comparison between the United States and Nicaragua is completely impossible. Look at the countries circling Nicaragua. Those same regimes that supported Nicaragua under its previous political regime are not friends around it, but enemies.

[Levin] Aleksandr Yevgeniyevich, apropos of these assertions by Reagan regarding the Sandinists' enormous Army and the threat posed by Sandinist Nicaragua to its neighbors, a brochure by a retired Lieutenant Colonel King, a well-known U.S. military expert in the field of Latin American countries' armed forces and former official in the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, has been published in the United States.

The brochure is entitled "Analysis of the Military Situation in Nicaragua." A specialist who worked on this first hand, a person who is thoroughly familiar with the problem, he writes: The Sandinist Armed Forces, even with the support of the USSR and Cuba -- that's one of their frequent themes, let's leave it to the author's conscience -- do not have a sufficient mobilization base, the potential for guaranteeing supplies of hardware and fuel reserves, nor the necessary numbers of experienced professional military commanders to pose a real threat to the security of Costa Rica, Honduras, or El Salvador. He cites figures and facts that convincingly show that there is no real military threat whatsoever from Nicaragua regarding its neighbors, and the author of the brochure, this lieutenant colonel, comes to the conclusion that the evaluations being carried out by the Reagan administration of the offensive potentials of the Nicaraguan Armed Forces and of their intentions are not balanced or objective, but this is a polite way of completely rejecting these assertions. Indeed, there are no grounds for reproaching Nicaragua. What does this U.S. interference mean? It means that the Nicaraguan people have to make really fantastic sacrifices. A few days ago, the government was forced to decide to substantially raise prices on gasoline; tariffs have been increased for the use of gas and electricity; and prices have been increased for traveling on city transport, although it must be noted that a bus ticket in Managua and other cities is the cheapest in Latin America and in dollar terms its cost is a mere three cents. For all that, the government has found it possible to raise the wages of main categories of workers by up to 70 percent.

[Bovin] A difficult situation.

[Levin] Complicated.

[Bovin] Forty percent of the budget goes to military needs at the moment. You have to view this realistically because this is a war, a war, and it demands huge expenditures both financial and material, and all of this has been foisted on them by the United States.

[Levin] As has become known in the United States, Reagan is now setting the task of doubling the numbers of the counterrevolutionaries' ranks, and in fact this $14 million, they say, is needed for this very purpose. However, I think that in this instance the political aspect, first and foremost, is more important in these allocations, than their, so to speak, real value, and this policy, this impertinent policy, causes indignation in Western Europe. The MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE journal wrote: It is an unheard of thing for a head of state to publicly state his intention of overthrowing a foreign government. However, we come up against this fact: The Washington administration is openly setting itself the task of overthrowing the Sandinist government. Or let's take the Near East, where the same subversive policy of the United States of America plays a very fateful role.

[Bovin] Yes, as you have already read comrades, the situation in Lebanon has again, of course, become exacerbated there, and the government of national unity, formed with such difficulty after the 10-year civil war, has found itself unable to carry out its work. Karami handed in his resignation after shooting skirmishes between the Amal group -- these are Lebanese Shi'ites -- and the Al-Murabitun group -- this is also a Muslim organization that exists there but they are Sunnis -- and for a whole number of reasons, so to speak, skirmishing arose between them, continuing for 2 days, and was quite severe. It was like an outbreak of civil war and led to the resignation of the prime minister, although the president instructed him to carry out his duties until a new government is formed. Of course, all of this also needs to be considered against the background of those constantly destabilizing actions that Israel is undertaking there.

On the one hand, it is removing troops from south Lebanon, and this seems to be a good thing, but in withdrawing troops it is in actual fact provoking clashes between right-wing Christian organizations and Muslim organizations. And you can understand why, because Israel doesn't need a stable Lebanon. The more unstable the situation is there, the easier it is for it to carry out its political maneuvers. As for the Americans, they of course think perhaps in somewhat wider terms than Israel -- they have wider strategic interests. Murphy, Shultz' aide, has now arrived there, and in general the Americans are trying, although obviously it is now a thoroughly lost cause, to somehow revive Camp David in some kind of new stage, and Murphy has such a concrete task, but it's like trying to put a square peg in a round hole, impossible: He is looking for Palestinians who would be able to take part in some kind of conversations and talks but who do not belong to the PLO. This is one of his concrete tasks, that is, to bypass the PLO and find Palestinian figures, and sufficiently authoritative ones, so that they could enter into this new Capd David proposition on behalf of the Palestinians. I doubt very much that he will succeed in doing this, but this is the sort of illusory task that they are setting themselves at the moment.

[Levin] Yes, the situation in the world remains undoubtedly very complex and very tense. We are sincerely striving for a leveling-out in international relations and for the consolidation of peace, and a most important direction in the activity of our party and state is the line for strengthening friendship and cooperation between socialist states. During the meeting between Kim Yong-nam, member of the Central Committee Politburo of the Korean Workers Party, deputy premier of the Administration Council, and DPRK minister of foreign affairs, and Comrade Gorbachev, the mutual conviction was expressed that the strengthening of ties between the CPSU and the Korean Workers Party, the expansion of all-around Soviet-Korean cooperation on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, meet the fundamental interests of the peoples of the two countries and the interests of peace and security in the Far East. A report published last Friday about the forthcoming meeting in Warsaw between the highest party and state officials of countries participating in the Warsaw Pact at the end of April is worthy of the most serious attention. When we talk about 40 years since the victory as 40 years of peace in Europe, we understand perfectly well that this peace, to a significant and decisive level, is ensured by the existence of the community of socialist states.

[Bovin] It is interesting that all of you know, comrades, that the Warsaw Pact arose as a response to the emergence of NATO, and the inclusion of West Germany in NATO. The NATO treaty itself was signed on the 4 April in Washington. I was once reading an old book about those times, and that book cited an editorial article printed in the U.S. WALL STREET JOURNAL on 5 April, the day after the signing of the treaty. It was called: The Triumph of the Law of the Jungle. In such a newspaper, not left-wing, but expressing the mood of the U.S. bourgeoisie, it said that the signing of the North Atlantic Treaty introduces these same laws of the jungle into contemporary international life, because the treaty poses military force, first and foremost, in world politics. That's a good description.

[Shishlin] Yes, but if the law of the jungle has not triumphed as a whole in international relations, then of course this is tied to a decisive extent with the political and defense capabilities of the socialist states. The Warsaw Pact is extremely significant in today's troubled international situation, significant also as a shield for the peaceful labor of socialist peoples, significant as a factor for peace and stability in Europe, and of course, the significance of the Warsaw Pact is enormous and of great weight as a collective political institute of socialist stages, for it is within the framework of the Warsaw Pact that the peace-loving foreign policy of the countries of socialism is jointly worked out and coordinated.

These countries have many tasks, as we all understand extremely well, and the most important task of all is the same peace whose blessings we have been enjoying for 4 postwar decades, a peace achieved at such a high price, and of course, one which must be looked after. In this regard, the Warsaw Pact has always had the first word to say and will continue to do so.

[Levin] On that note, esteemed comrades, we end today's program. Thank you for your attention. All the best.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

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["International Situation: Questions and Answers" program presented by All-Union Radio foreign policy commentator Yevgeniy Kachanov, with TASS political observer Gennadiy Arkadiyevich Shishkin; Vladimir Pasko -- not further identified; NOVOSTI political observer Edgar Anatoliyevich Cheporov; and commentator Igor Charikov]

[Excerpts] [Kachanov] Hello there, esteemed comrades. In opening today's program, I would first like to turn to our mailbag. Peace is the chief prerequisite for the realization of all our grand plans, and so there is nothing surprising in the fact that people have a long regarded peace and socialism as synonymous, notes (Rodion Vasilyevich Sotnikov) from (Khomutovskiy) sovkhoz in Orel Oblast. Moscow Technical College teacher (Irina Dorokhova) says that in difficult international circumstances, the socialist countries are again demonstrating their cohesion in pursuing a coordinated policy of opposition to the forces of war.

I have shown TASS political observer Gennadiy Arkadiyevich Shishkin, one of the participants in our program, these and other letters that have arrived in the editorial office. Gennadiy Arkadiyevich, it is doubtless true to say that today, at a time when public opinion in the most diverse countries on all continents strives to exert an active influence on the destinies of peace, practical and constructive steps to strengthen peace assume particular topicality and importance.

Geneva Talks

[Shishkin] That is precisely why the whole of peace-loving mankind welcome with such warmth the major move that Comrade Gorbachev has announced: the Soviet Union's introduction of a unilateral moratorium on the deployment of medium-range missiles and the suspension of the implementation of other countermeasures in Europe. This is a considerable act of goodwill on the part of our country. The unilateral Soviet moratorium is to last until this November. What the Soviet Union decides to do after this will depend on whether the United States follows the example we have set, whether or not it halts the deployment of its Pershing and cruise missiles in Europe. In this way, in underpinning its new peaceful proposal with a specific unilateral move, the Soviet Union strives to create a favorable atmosphere for the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva. It is common knowledge that the subject matter and objective of the talks were defined beforehand by both the Soviet-U.S. sides, even before the start of the talks. They are: not to begin an arms race in space, to halt the arms race on earth, and to proceed to a radical reduction of nuclear armaments with the final objective of eliminating them altogether. What is needed now is for the accord that has been achieved to be implemented. The importance of the Geneva talks lies in the fact that the direction that the further development not just of Soviet-U.S. relations, but also the situation in the world as a whole will take depends on their outcome. The choice is not great:

Either an arms race in all directions, with a concomitant increase in the threat of war, or a strengthening of universal security, and consequently, a more stable peace for all. The need to improve Soviet-U.S. relations and to give them a more stable and constructive character is particularly evident today when we are all preparing to mark the 40th anniversary of victory over Hitlerite Germany.

Anniversary of War

[Kachanov] Looking back in history, we cannot fail to note that the countries of the anti-Hitler coalition not only belonged to different social systems, but at a number of stages of their development, had far from friendly relations with one another.

[Shishkin] Yet they became allies. Their leaders managed to rise above the considerations of the moment and to subordinate their actions to the principal goal: that of scoring a victory over the common enemy. They succeeded not just in this, but also in the fact that they managed to jointly define the foundations of the postwar set up. These foundations are enshrined in the historic documents of the Tehran, Yalta, and Potsdam conferences. Their principal significance remains relevant to this day. Their aim is to realize mankind's supreme desire for a stable peace. The way to achieving this, it was indicated, lies in the preservation of the unity of purpose and action that made it possible to conquer nazism and deliver the peoples from Hitlerite enslavement.

[Kachanov] Those who today act from an anti-Soviet position and dispute the validity of a relaxation in relations between states with different social systems commonly raise the objection that the anti-Hitler coalition was set up and acted in concert just because there was a war under way and that Hitlerism was recognized as a universal danger.

[Shishkin] That is so, of course. But in our day, too, we all have a deadly common enemy: the threat of worldwide nuclear calamity. Where does one begin, how could one proceed to the realization of these noble objectives? Very specific proposals have been advanced by the Soviet Union on this score on numerous occasions. One could, for instance, reach a binding accord between powers possessing nuclear weapons on the observance of certain norms in relations with one another in order to prevent the outbreak of nuclear war. One could also agree that, in marking the 40th anniversary of the end of the most terrible and destructive of wars, the leaders of the USSR and the United States would jointly reaffirm in a form that suited both sides the essence and spirit of the principal obligations assumed by the two countries both at the end of the war and in the agreements of the seventies.

Socialist Trade, Relations

[Kachanov] Comrades, a number of letters concern the development of the fraternal socialist countries and cooperation among them. My colleague Vladimir Pasko will answer them:

[Pasko] I shall start with a letter from [Viktor Vasilyevich Shapovalov] from Ivano-Frankovsk. He asks us to explain why the countries of the socialist community still do not have kolkhozes and sovkhozes. How is agriculture organized there? The question of land usage in the fraternal countries also interests Comrade (Megalovskiy) from Ilyinskoye settlement in Kineshemskiy Rayon of Ivanovo Oblast. What role does the public sector play in their agriculture, he asks. Kolkhozes account for the overwhelming proportion of agricultural production in all the fraternal countries, with the exception of Poland. They account for 83-100 percent of all cultivated land. In other words, the collective form of land usage has become the main one there. Two types of land ownership are common to all these countries: the cooperative and collective system and the state system. In our country they are represented by kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

In the other countries they are represented by cooperatives and by other producer associations. In the agricultural system of the socialist countries, the two forms of land ownership are tending to draw closer to each other. This is taking place at the same time as the development of agro-industrial cooperation. Agricultural producers are also beginning to process their own produce, as is the case in Bulgaria for example, or to manufacture products that industry needs. This is especially prevalent in Hungary.

(Ivan Andreyevich Nekerov) from Zagorsk in Moscow Oblast, a veteran of the kolkhoz movement, also asks us to talk about the yields obtained on kolkhozes in the CEMA countries. The yields are increasing everywhere. In the European countries of the community, the average grain yield now amounts to 26-40 quintals per hectare. Hungary, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and the GDR are in first place. Before the revolution, grain yields were no greater than 16 quintals per hectare, even in a country like Bulgaria which has such favorable soil and weather conditions.

Here is another letter, from (Mariya Pavlovna Naumova), who lives in Tashkent. We supply the CEMA countries with fuel, electricity, and industrial raw materials, she writes. The CEMA countries send us manufactured products. In the West, it is said that trading relations of this kind are holding back the industrial development of the Soviet Union. What is your view on this -- your objective view, (Mariya Pavlovna) adds. Well, (Mariya Pavlovna), let us indeed take an objective look at this. First and foremost, I would like to ask you where the machinery and equipment we buy in other countries are used. They are used at enterprises which we are building. This means that such purchases cannot hold up our industrial development in any way. On the contrary, they contribute to it.

Let us turn to the other part of your question, about our sale of energy products and raw materials. Have they really held up our industrial development? During the first 5 years after the war, we rebuilt everything that had been destroyed. Subsequently our development rates were faster than in any other country. I would also like to draw your attention to the following point. It is absolutely wrong to say that we only sell raw materials. In the CEMA countries alone we have built over 2,200 large industrial enterprises and many more in other countries. Our machines, machine-tools, and presses are also in use in the developed capitalist countries. We export consumer goods -- substantial quantities of them. In the CEMA countries our consumer durables account for 19-30 percent of retail turnover.

One needs to regard the sale of raw materials in exactly the same way as the sale of any other commodity. Incidentally, the West, whose anticommunist propaganda protrays our export of raw materials as evidence of industrial backwardness, is very active in this field. This also applies to the United States. They sell cotton, soya, grain, and chemical and other raw materials and regard this as normal. To complete the picture I shall point out that we do not only sell raw materials. We also buy them. We buy those types of raw materials that we need. Some of it we buy in fraternal countries. You are right to say that the great economic potential of the Soviet Union is helping the fraternal countries to develop their economies. But one should not overlook their contribution to the solution of our problems. During the last 5-year plan their deliveries accounted for up to 40 percent of our requirement for new ships and loaders, up to 35 percent of the passenger carriages that we needed, 12 percent of the buses, and 30 percent of plate-rolling equipment. These figures are impressive, are they not?

However, that is not the most important point. An increasing proportion of the products that we exchange are produced through specialization and corrdination of production, in other words, through joint production. That is what is important.

The development of this process, which is in fact promoted by trade, is leading to more rapid strengthening of each country -- and the entire community as well. Precisely this is the most important characteristic of relations among us.

'Star Wars'

[Kachanov] (Anatoliy Grigoriyevich Mikhaylov) from Simferopol, a participant of the Great Patriotic War, asks us to provide him with a detailed explanation of what is meant by star wars, a notion which, as is known, came to existence in connection with the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative of President Reagan. Comrade (Muradov) from Novosibirsk is also interested in this issue. He writes: American officials assert that Reagan's notorious Strategic Defense Initiative serves as a most reliable means to stabilize military balance. What one can say in regard to this subject?
Edgar Anatoliyevich Cheporov, political observer of the NOVOSTI press agency answers.

[Cheporov] Yes, as the Geneva talks have started, Washington began to assert with particular persistence that Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative had a mission of stabilizing the military balance, creating conditions for elimination of nuclear weapons. U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger, in particular, talked exactly about this at the 13 April sitting of the American Society of Newspaper editors. In the same speech, he stressed that the Strategic Defense Initiative is the only course to follow for the United States. However, if the United States is really determined not to violate the principle of stability, balance, first of all, it should not violate the accords already reached. After all, as early as the beginning of the seventies, the United States and the Soviet Union agreed that under the conditions of parity in the strategic offensive forces, obtaining of additional defensive potential by one of the sides is equivalent to obtaining the potential for a pre-emptive nuclear strike. It was precisely this provision that was laid as a basis for the Soviet-U.S. indefinite treaty on antimissile defense which was concluded in 1972. Realization of the star wars program would jeopardize strategic stability, primarily because Washington's plan to militarize space is a means of achieving military superiority. The United States would like to obtain freedom of action for offensive nuclear armaments under the protection of an antimissile space shield from a retaliatory strike. Washington's course on modernization of nuclear first-strike weapons is conclusive proof of that. Recently, under mighty pressure from the White House, the U.S. Congress financed production of 21 more MX intercontinental ballistic missiles. The Pentagon demands confirmation of its orders, which are worth billions, for perfection of the Trident system, for equipping the strategic B-52 bombers with nuclear cruise missiles, for building new heavy bombers. The military is also trying to obtain new appropriations to continue Pershing and cruise missiles deployment in Western Europe. The deployment is being carried out in strict adherence to the Pentagon's schedule, therefore tension in Western Europe keeps growing. But if the Strategic Defense Initiative, as Washington asserts, would serve stabilization, why then, one can ask, does the United States need to undertake the present spurt in the race of nuclear first-strike weapons? The fact is, however, that the antimissile shield and the nuclear sword are two of the most important sides in the U.S. strategy to obtain military superiority. Already after the start of the Geneva talks, American officials admitted that the wide-scale program of antimissile defense with space-based elements would render any limitations and, it goes without saying, any reductions of the strategic offensive armaments, impossible. Offensive nuclear missile forces, Pentagon boss Weinberger said, will be necessary for the United States during a long time, until the antimissile defense system that is being elaborated at present assumes a real shape. Reagan's space initiative, as we see, it rapidly turning into a stimulus for urging on the arms race, and that is exactly why it is a destabilizing factor.

[Kachanov] To sum up, the United States needs the space shield to protect the U.S. nuclear first-strike weapons. Is that all there is to the content of the star wars strategy?

[Cheporov] The space shield is only one side of the star wars strategy. Another, which is most clsely interlinked with the first, involves use of the space weapons against enemy ground installations. This weapons can be used as the defense supplement of an offensive nuclear strike, since it would make it possible to launch nuclear missiles, while the defense would be a reserve in case of a retaliatory strike. Moreover, as specialists believe, THE NEW YORK TIMES wrote, it can be used for strikes from space aimed at such ground targets as aircraft, tankers, power stations, in order to cause fires and inflict damage.

As became known recently, there is a secret Pentagon program entitled Prospective Strategic Missile Systems. In the framework of this program, high-velocity shells are being projected to be fired from space-based electromagnetic guns and aimed at ground targets, as well as optic lasers. The work is not limited to laboratory tests: During a recent test of an MX missile over the Pacific Ocean, 2 of its 10 warheads which followed a trajectory different from the others, were launched precisely in accordance with the Prospective Strategic Missile Systems program. The plan is to equip with maneuvering warheads in the future not only MX, but also the new Midgetman, appropriations for which are doubled in the new Pentagon draft budget. It is necessary, in my opinion, to emphasize that the U.S. militarization of space would not turn out without consequences for the whole human race and for the many countries that would find themselves the target of the U.S. space systems. Shifting the arms race to space could bring about a threat of global nature, a threat that would affect vital interests of the peoples of all countries and continents. If it is not prevented, it can undermine the whole system of international security.

GORBACHEV PRAVDA INTERVIEW CIRCULATED AT UN

LD200636 Moscow TASS in English 0631 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] New York April 20 TASS -- The text of the interview given by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to a PRAVDA editor has been circulated at the UN Headquarters as an official document of the UN General Assembly. The text was published on April 8, 1985.

MALTSEV ADDRESSES EUROPE ECONOMIC COMMISSION

LD182111 Moscow TASS in English 1518 GMT 18 Apr 85

[Text] Geneva April 18 TASS -- The Soviet Union has always attached and continues to attach great significance to the United Nations as an instrument of peace, said First Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR Viktor Maltsev. He spoke at a session of the Economic Commission for Europe here today. The head of the Soviet delegation emphasised that the session is being held on the eve of the historical event -- the 40th anniversary of the victory over nazism and fascism, the decisive contribution to which was made by the Soviet Union. One of the results of that victory was formation of the United Nations Organisation and the founders of that organisation held that it is necessary to fight jointly against war until it begins. [as received] The joint efforts of states in that direction are insistently required nowadays, too, the speaker said.

The head of the USSR's delegation drew attention of the participants to new Soviet peace initiatives, to proposals of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev aimed at prevention of a nuclear war, limitation and reduction of armaments.

Viktor Maltsev recalled that at the Moscow conference in June last year the leaders of the CMEA member-countries put forward a concrete programme of actions to improve economic relations and reaffirmed their consistent course of consolidation of peace and relaxation of international tension. It is essential to preserve and to strengthen the all-European process that was ushered in in Helsinki by the signing ten years ago of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The Economic Commission for Europe, as an element in the UN system, bound to promote normalisation and development of East-West relations, should also make its contribution to attainment of those aims.

The head of the USSR delegation declared for development of equitable and mutually advantageous cooperation between the countries-members of the Economic Commission for Europe in such spheres as trade, science and technology, power engineering, transport, environment.

NONALIGNED MEETING OPENS IN DELHI 19 APR

LD191412 Moscow TASS in English 1136 GMT 19 Apr 85

[Text] New Delhi April 19 TASS -- TASS correspondents Aleksandr Bokhonko and Sergey Karmalito report:

An extraordinary meeting of the Coordination Bureau of the non-aligned countries on Namibia timed to the 25th anniversary of the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) has opened in the Indian capital today. Attending the meeting are ministers and official representatives of governments of 80 countries as well as observers and representatives of a number of international organizations and national liberation movements. The central issue on the agenda of the forum is the granting of independence to Namibia, which remains under unlawful occupation by the Republic of South Africa as a result of the policy pursued by the racist Pretoria regime, which disregards the decisions of the United Nations Organization and the opinion of the world community.

Addressing the opening session, Indian's Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, stressed that the non-aligned countries are concerned with the issues in connection with ensuring peace, freedom, of peoples and elimination of international economic differences.

A pressing need of today is disarmament, Rajiv Gandhi said. The Non-Aligned Movement gives all-round support for any initiatives contributing to the attainment of that goal.

The head of the Indian Government expressed concern over the situation in the Middle East, Southwest and Southeast Asia, interference and interventionist actions directed against the Central American states, the buildup of military preparations in the Indian Ocean basin.

In Namibia, Rajiv Gandhi continued, the Republic of South Africa is pursuing a policy of open lawlessness, is militarizing that country. Today, the buildup of military presence of the Republic of South Africain Namibia has reached an unprecedented level. It is used for stepping up terror against the Namibians, forcing them to give up support for SWAPO and also for launching aggressive actions against the neighbour states.

The prime minister of India stressed that the racist minority regime in the Republic of South Africa openly disregards the world public opinion, due to overt and covert patronage by certain countries. It is precisely their continuing cooperation in the political, economic, military and nuclear fields that strengthens the belligerence of the Republic of South Africa.

Under the pretext of improving the position of the indigenous population they are planting multinational corporations in the economy of the Republic of South Africa and Namibia while the African population gets only truncheons and bullets, Rajiv Gandhi stressed.

The Indian prime minister condemned the attempts at an "internal settlement" in Namibia in violation of the UN decisions, Pretoria's intention to set up a puppet "transitional government" in that country. He stressed that the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people is SWAPO and reaffirmed that the non-aligned states will continue all-round political and material support for that organization.

Rajiv Gandhi announced his government's intention to give full diplomatic status to SWAPO's representation in India.

U.S. Policy on Namibia Hit

LD210903 Moscow TASS in English 0809 GMT 21 Apr 85

[Text] New Delhi April 21 TASS -- The Coordinating Bureau of the non-aligned countries is ending its emergency session on Namibia, held at the level of foreign ministers, in the Indian capital today. The three-day meeting of the governing body of the Non-Aligned Movement became a forceful demonstration of solidarity with the people of Namibia, who are fighting for their liberation and against the illegal occupation of their country by racist-ruled South Africa. The attending foreign ministers voiced determination to press for an immediate independence for the Namibian people, as demanded by the corresponding decisions of the United Nations, and the elimination of the remaining seats of colonialism and racism in the African Continent. The representatives of the non-aligned countries made concrete proposals to increase military and material aid to the vanguard of the Namibian people, the South West Africa People's Organization [SWAPO], and sever diplomatic, economic and other links with the apartheid regime. The U.S. policy of "constructive engagement" with South Africa, which effectively puts off prospects for a Namibian settlement and enables the South African regime to continue its occupation of Namibia, came under strong fire at the Coordinating Bureau's meeting.

LATE REPORT: GORBACHEV 'CERTAIN' TO ATTEND UNGA

AU221315 Vienna ORF Teletext in German 1300 GMT 22 Apr 85

[Text] Soviet party leader Mikhail Gorbachev will be taking part in the next UN General Assembly in the autumn.

As PRAVDA chief editor Viktor Afanasyev declared today, he was "certain" that Gorbachev would travel to New York.

It has repeatedly been speculated in Western circles that the 54-year old party leader might take the opportunity of a visit to New York to meet with President Reagan.

MOTIVES FOR REAGAN DEATH CAMP VISIT 'BLASPHEMOUS'

PM191418 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Apr 85 Second Edition p 3

[A. Nekrasov "Rejoinder": "Blasphemous Considerations"]

[Text] Following a few days of feverish activeness, stormy debates, and even "deep thought," the White House announced that President Reagan intends to visit one of the former concentration camps during his forthcoming trip to the FRG in order to "honor the memory of the victims of fascism." Such a step could only have been acclaimed had official Washington really been guided by the desire to pay the respect due to the memory of millions of people who died at the hands of Hitler's butchers, but the administration is guided by different and, to put it bluntly, blasphemous considerations. It wants to placate the angry wave of indignation caused by the previously announced decision of the U.S. President to visit the Bitburg military cemetery, where thousands of servicemen from Hitler's Wehrmacht and SS troops lie buried.

The intention to visit this cemetery is basically so monstrous that one can understand U.S. Congressman W. Green. He openly voiced his doubts about the existence of reason within the administration, whose chief would be laying wreaths at the graves of those who killed U.S. soldiers. Even THE WASHINGTON POST could not restrain itself. "There probably is a segment in Reagan's brain," the newspaper writes, "where the war is seen as a movie. The dead pick themselves up, dust themselves off, and go to lunch with those who 'killed' them.... Could this be why Reagan imagined that it would not be bad to lay wreaths at Bitburg?"

It is also highly significant that Bitburg, where Reagan so much wants to visit, will soon see the start of the deployment of Pershing II U.S. nuclear missiles. This is a tangible combination of admiration for militarists from the past with Washington's present militarist schemes.

TASS REPORTS WHITEHEAD AS DAM'S REPLACEMENT

LD191149 Moscow TASS in English 2255 GMT 18 Apr 85

[Text] Washington April 19 TASS -- President Reagan has appointed John Whitehead to the post of deputy secretary of state. Whitehead, who is to be endorsed by the Senate, will replace Kenneth Dam.

Although officially the administration is trying to pass off the appointment as "routine," caused primarily by Dam's desire to return to private business, observers tend to view the presidential decision differently. They think that it is another manifestation of continued disputes and infighting in the administration over the formulation of foreign policy. Whitehead's appointment also graphically illustrates the special relationship of the U.S. Administration with big business: The 63-year-old appointee has for 37 tears held a senior post in the transnational investment corporation "Goldman, Sachs and Co."

CIA MIND CONTROL PROGRAM DETAILS TO STAY SECRET

LD201544 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 19 Apr 85

[Excerpts] The United States Supreme Court has ruled that the Central Intelligence Agency can keep secret the details of its research program on means of mind control.

Chief Justice Warren Burger has said in this connection that foreign intelligence services have an interest in knowing what is being studied and researched by our agencies dealing with our national security.

Well, every country, no doubt, has a right to guard its official secrets, but the ruling of the United States Court, it appears, is aimed at covering up the classified CIA program, codenamed MC Ultra [as heard], or Mind Control, and preventing a public outcry rather than rebuffing foreign intelligence services. Under the program, the CIA experimented with manipulating the mind. Using drugs, hypnosis, and electronic stimulants, CIA experts research ways of breaking the will, making people unaware of their identity and turning them into zombies, prepared to carry out any order.

Public organizations in the United States and other countries where these experiments were performed, and possibly are now performed, are concerned at the possibility that anyone can be made a guinea pig against his or her will in a gruesome experiment turning a human being into a zombie. The only guarantee against that is access to information about who researched under that program and where that research was carried out, but, in accordance with the Supreme Court ruling, that information can be legally withheld by the CIA.

This, of course, can be described as protecting national security. But the question is: What threat to United States' national security was posed by the wife of a Canadian MP and other people who have suffered as a result of the MC Ultra program? The Supreme Court ruling also made it clear that the freedom of information lends itself to a number of interpretations. The CIA, for instance, can obtain any information about any American but the American citizen has no right to know whether he or she has been used by the CIA as a guinea pig.

'DISCOVERY' RETURNS; RESCUE OPERATION FAILS

LD200617 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0104 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] The U.S. Discovery shuttle spacecraft landed at Cape Canaveral in the State of Florida, 2 days later than originally scheduled, with 7 astronauts on board. The flight was prolonged due to efforts to put a communications satellite back into operation which had been launched and intended for use by the U.S. Armed Forces for communications with ships, aircraft, and military installations. The rescue operation came to nought, however. The launching of a military satellite was part of the crew's tasks in spite of the fact that the latest Discovery flight was carried out within the framework of the NASA civilian program. The Pentagon is increasingly getting its hands on craft of this type, considering them to be an important integral part of the Reagan star wars program.

USSR STRIVING FOR NORMAL U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS

LD212017 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 21 Apr 85

[From 'International Panorama' program presented by Boris Kalyagin]

[Text] The greatest manifestation of democracy, Lenin noted, lies in the fundamental question of war and peace. The striving of our people for peaceful construction is fully reflected in the Leninist foreign policy of the Soviet state. This was confirmed once again by the Extraordinary March CPSU Central Committee Plenum.

Taking the floor at the plenum Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said: We shall firmly follow the Leninist course of peace and peaceful coexistance. The Soviet Union will always respond to goodwill with goodwill, to trust with trust. The USSR is sincerely striving for a return to normal Soviet-U.S. relations. We do not hold the view that the current tension between our countries is based on some fatal collision of national interests. Our state has no territorial claims towards the United States and we do not intend to attain military superiority over the United States. We think that the differences in the social systems and ideologies of our countries are no reason for kindling hatred.

The United States likes to hold forth on some iron curtain with which the Soviet Union has surrounded itself, but it is the United States that is trying to cut itself off from us with such a curtain. The U.S. authorities are regularly refusing to grant entry visas to the United States to Soviet representatives and have banned Aeroflot flights to the United States. If Soviet people want to go to the United States they first have to go to Canada, from there by a Canadian plane to New York, and then make their way to their destination. Even for any ordinary delegation this is very inconvenient and imagine how many difficulties arise in the case of a large drama group. Incidentally, the cultural links between Washington and our country are in a half-frozen state. For 6 years now the U.S. side has been refusing to renew cultural agreements with the Soviet Union. Things are not better in the sphere of trade either. The U.S. Administration places all possible obstacles in its way, imposes embargos on deliveries of goods, and forces businessmen to abandon contracts concluded. This policy does not fall within the framework of normal international relations. Meanwhile, there is every condition for improvement in Soviet-U.S. links, for making them more steady and constructive. Historical experience confirms that the two sides can only benefit from this.

ACADEMICIAN ON EFFECT OF U.S. ECONOMIC SANCTIONS

LD200300 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 19 Apr 85

[Text] The discovery of large oil and gas deposits in Siberia caused a worldwide sensation. Today Western Siberia annually produces 400 million tons of high quality oil and hundreds of billions of cubic meters of gas. Will the production of oil and gas in Siberia be growing and at what rates? Dr (Abel Oglunbegyan) of the Soviet Academy of Sciences answers this and a few other questions in the following interview:

[Question] For several years now the American CIA and some other agencies of the United States have been publishing surveys that claim that the West Siberian oil deposits are being exhausted. Is this so?

[Answer] No, Siberia's main discoveries are yet to be made and many of the proven deposits are not being exploited, awaiting their turn. In a manner of speaking the oil deposits of Western Siberia are a big cake from which we have taken just a few spoonfuls of cream. Now we speak only about Western Siberia while some 30 oil and gas deposits have been discovered in eastern Siberia. It looks as though by the end of this century Eastern Siberia will be the country's third biggest producer of oil and gas, after Western Siberia and the Volga River region.

[Question] Or speaking of Eastern Siberia, you mean Yakutia?

[Answer] Yes, first of all I mean Yakutia. The area is known for its demands, gold, tin, coal and just about all other elements in the periodic system. But I believe its greatest wealth is oil and gas.

[Question] The name Yakutia should be familiar to some of our listeners in the United States. In 1974 the USSR and the United States and Japan signed a general agreement for conducting geological prospecting for natural gas in the area. Under that agreement a big gas pipeline was to be built from those gas fields to the Pacific coast to deliver condensed gas to Japan and the United States. How is that agreement being put into effect?

[Answer] It is not being put into effect. The agreement was torpedoed by the American Administration that introduced so-called economic sanctions against the USSR.

[Question] Who suffered from that?

[Answer] I believe the United States and Japan did. Or rather Japan and the United States. If you just look at the map you will see that by building that project Japan would have saved colossal sums on transport expenses alone.

[Question] How about the United States?

[Answer] I believe regular deliveries of large quantities of gas from Yakutia would have been good for the United States too. That would have enabled the United States to build new big gas processing facilities on its Pacific coast and this would have created new jobs. Also the country's energy balance would have been improved.

[Question] Did not that hurt the Soviet Union too?

[Answer] Well, it all depends how you look at it. Of course it would have been profitable for us to sell gas to Japan and the United States, but it was a forlorn hope that by refusing to participate in the project the United States and Japanese firms could undermine our own capability to develop gas fields in Yakutia. But nothing of the kind happened. We are pursuing large-scale geological surveying in the region.

[Question] But for promoting our own economic development only?

[Answer] That is right, and we do not have to build a gas pipeline to the Pacific coast now.

[Question] Why not? The pipeline could deliver natural gas from Yakutia to the Soviet Far East.

[Answer] Well, the fact is that the gas deposits discovered just off Sakhalin Island are sufficient to fully meet the vast region's requirements.

In other words Washington's sanctions proved totally ineffective and this could not have been otherwise. The USSR is the world's second biggest industrial power and the scale of geological surveying here is much bigger than in any other country. Besides we own many technological achievements in this field. One example is the Soviet-made unique unit for super deep drilling. I believe it was simply ridiculous to hope that the economic sanctions against the Soviet Union would be effective.

U.S. MILITARY PRESENCE IN ICELAND CRITICIZED

PM201623 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 4

[M. Zubko "International Commentary": "Iceland in the Pentagon's Plans"]

[Text] The United States is increasingly harnessing peaceful Iceland, which does not have its own army, to its aggressive policy of a "crusade" against the socialist countries.

These are the facts: The Pentagon plans to site the most modern F-15 Eagle planes at the the Keflavik Air Base, modernize the two existing radar tracking stations and build two more, and triple fuel dump capacity.

This information was cited in a Reykjavik report by AP correspondent Larry (Torson). He does not paint the whole picture of the U.S. military presence in Iceland, speaking only of its buildup. We will therefore add that the Keflavik base is one of the largest in Western Europe. More than 3,000 U.S. servicemen are stationed there and F-4, P-3 Orion warplanes, and AWACS radar espionage planes are based there.

Matters have reached the point where the United States has started planning (unknown to the Icelandic Government!) to use the island in its nuclear strategy. At the end of last year, as has already been reported, W. Arkin, a staffer at the Institute for Political Studies in Washington, sent Iceland's prime minister and foreign minister a copy of a secret Pentagon document stating that the U.S. President had given his permission (?!) for stockpiling 48 depth charges with nuclear warheads near Keflavik.

In this connection I would particularly like to stress that impudence with regard to the use of foreign territories is entirely typical of official Washington, which is used to operating on the principle "everything that is advantageous for me is good." History tells us that the Danish authorities, for instance, only learned about the use of Greenland (an overseas Danish province) in the Pentagon's nuclear strategy after a U.S. bomber with nuclear bombs aboard crashed near the USAF base in Thule in northern Greenland. The Norwegians only learned the facts about the use of the Norwegian airfield at Bodo by the U-2 spy plane when Soviet antiaircraft gunners downed Powers over Soviet territory!

Now comes the impudence with regard to Iceland. Needless to say, the revelation of the secret Pentagon plan alarmed the entire country. This has been written about, and I need not repeat it. I will simply recall that this unseemly episode intensified the Icelandic movement against the U.S. military presence on the island and for the declartion of northern Europe as a nuclear-free zone. During the emergency debates in the Icelandic Parliament all six parties represented in the Althing decided to form a commission to "study the possibility of Icelandic participation in discussions on a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe." Such unanimity is worth noting, is it not?

Finally, the AP correspondent's report says that the United States is building up sits military presence in Iceland simply to "continue tracking" Soviet submarines and planes. That is a hackneyed ruse: Impudent actions have produced impudent justifications from Washington and they intimidate all and sundry with the "Soviet threat." The Danes are intimidated with the imaginary increased activity of the Soviet fleet in the Baltic, the Norwegians and Swedes by the actions which our submarines are allegedly conducting in these countries' fjords and skerries.

There is not a word about the fact that the exacerbation of the military-political situation in the world is happening through the fault of the United States and NATO and that in their plans for a first strike against the socialist countries a considerable role is allocated to the U.S. military bases in Iceland -- a country which does not have an army of its own.

REAGAN MAKES 'LAST-DITCH' ATTEMPT FOR CONTRA AID

LD211527 Moscow TASS in English 1419 GMT 21 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Washington April 21 TASS -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan has used his latest address on the radio to try to justify the administration's anti-Nicaraguan policy and bring pressure to bear on the Congress in order to make it approve the request of the White House for the granting of large-scale aid to counter-revolutionary rabble. Observers describe it as a last-ditch and decisive attempt at getting for the contras 14 million dollars from the Congress, which is due to start voting on that issue early next week. Reagan did not hesitate to describe the Somoza relics, who stage brutal repressions against the country's peaceful population, burn schools and hospitals, as "liberators" of Nicaragua. Advocating an increase in the aid to the murderers, he demagogically claimed that the Congress' refusal to okay the request of the administration would signal the start of the end of every hope to establishing peace and democracy in Central America.

The U.S. President once again frightened the Americans with the emergence of "communist danger" in Central America, which, allegedly, jeopardizes the national interests of the USA.

The President's speech has been a new stage in the large-scale propaganda campaign launched by the White House in order to ensure public support for the Reagan administration's militaristic adventurist policy in Central America, its attempts to force the countries of the region follow in the footsteps of United States policy. Official Washington has enlisted the support in this campaign of a number of reactionary "public" organisations as the American Conservative Union and Citizens for America.

Managua April 21 TASS -- The attempt of the White House at convincing the Congress and public that the so-called "peace plan" for Nicaragua put forward by him has international support is suffering a failure. A statement to this effect has been made here by Nicaragua's Vice President Sergio Ramirez. Right after making the "plan" public, he pointed out, official United States propaganda started hastily searching for allies among the leaders of the member-countries of the Contadora Group, other states of the world and even approached the pope. Yes, the lies and juggling with the facts by the White House have boomeranged the President himself. Reagan's claims that his "peace initiatives" have found support among the countries of the Contadora Group have been refuted by the latter's leaders. The U.S. President has also failed in gearing the Vatican to his plan. The representatives of the Holy See, in Washington have refused to support the American ultimatum against the Sandinist people's revolution.

Washington has succeeded in ensuring support for Reagan's plan only from the Salvadoran and Honduran regimes obedient to it, as the aim of the afore-mentioned plan is not a quest for a political settlement of the Central American crisis, but a "settlement" of the regional problems by means of crude military force, Sergio Ramirez said.

Congressional Opposition Noted

LD201214 Moscow TASS in English 1155 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] Washington April 20 TASS -- The policy of the United States in respect of Nicaragua is erroneous, it is stressed in a statement circulated here by the prominent American politician, Deputy Democratic Minority Leader in the Senate Alan Cranston. This policy, he stresses, is immoral. It is also unlawful. According to Cranston the financing by the United States of military operations aiming at overthrowing the lawful government of another country is a violation not only of the United Nations Charter but also of the American Constitution.

Alan Cranston notes that the granting of new allocations of millions of dollars to the Nicaraguan "contras" will actually mean a declaration of war against Nicaragua. On the eve of the 10th anniversary of the defeat in Vietnam it would be useful to recall some lessons of the policy of suppressing national-liberation movements and of overseas wars. Congress should not repeat the tragic mistake of 1964 when it approved the Tonkin Resolution that cleared the way for direct armed interference in Vietnam, the statement says.

The influential Republican Senator Charles Mathias announced his intention to vote against new allocations for continuing the undeclared war against Nicaragua. The United States, he said, is actually coming out for a forcible overthrow of the present Nicaraguan Government.

Member of the House of Representatives Major Owens noted that to meet the Administration's request and grant money to the "contras" would mean continuing American armed interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state. The congressman recalled that the overwhelming majority of Nicaraguans voted for the candidate of President Daniel Ortega at last year's elections. Such popular support for the Sandinist government demands of the United States respect even if it does not agree with some aspects of that government's policy, he said.

U.S. PLANS FOR NICARAGUA INTERVENTION CITED

PM190916 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 15 Apr 85 pp 8-9

[Aleksandr Baryshev article: "How Invasion Is Being Prepared"]

[Text] The noisy anti-Nicaraguan campaign being conducted by the Reagan Administration has taken a new upward spiral with the publication by the State Department and the Pentagon of a 45-page joint report. One of the key chapters in this "document" is devoted to Nicaragua.

Such printed matter is lavishly supplemented with oral statements by U.S. officials at every level who are in virtual competition with one another in parroting absurdities about Nicaragua. Furthermore, the U.S. representative in the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States, William Middendorf, declared in late March that Washington intended to ask the OAS to take direct action against Nicaragua.

So what is the reason for the present fit of hysteria, and what prompts its organizers?

Few people in the United States, even in Capitol Hill still believe that the alliance with the counterrevolutionaries in Honduras, started several years ago, has as its aim the "stemming of the flow of arms" from Nicaragua to the guerrillas in El Salvador, as has always been contended by officials from the White House and the State Department. Not a shred of decent evidence of this has ever been provided. But there is plenty of incontrovertible proof that the contras (or "freedom fighters," in the Washington parlance) do destroy civilian installations in Nicaragua and kill peaceful civilians.

Neither does Washington conceal that its aim is to overthrow the Sandinist government. Judging by Mr Middendorf's statement, here Washington sees eye to eye with the bandits on its payroll. It is worth recalling that there exists a relevant special amendment suggested by Senator Symms and adopted in 1982 which says that the United States is fully resolved, by whatever means required, including the use of force, to prevent the Marxist-Leninist regime in Cuba from "spreading" to any other part of the Western Hemisphere. As the American journalist Elizabeth Reimann wrote in her book published in Mexico, the Symms Amendment imparts still greater aggressiveness to an arrogant administration with a maniacal intolerance of and aversion for political solutions, and leaves the door open for interventionist action in Central America and the Caribbean.

As it appears to fling open this door, Washington is raising its runaway anti-Nicaraguan propaganda to an even higher pitch. Indeed, it has stated quite brazenly that the government in Nicaragua does not suit it and should be removed.

But how? With Chilean-style coup effected by the CIA, the U.S. Embassy in Managua and the opposition right-wing parties? The chances of its succeeding are slim indeed.

As for the frenzied excitement generated by the White House over the question of the forthcoming vote in Congress on the allocation of an addition $14 million for the upkeep and arming of the contras the issue at stake is not really money. The Administration has to deal with the opposition in Congress. Reagan believes that, should both major parties support the contras, that would free his hands to act against Nicaragua. It should also be borne in mind that, first, $14 million is not that big a sum for the United States. Secondly, even without these $14 million the contras are quite well-off. Well-wishers in Israel and the United States (managers of secret CIA funds, private "contributors," etc.) are ready at the drop of a hat to satisfy their needs. Thirdly, the diehard Somozists are alloted nothing more than an auxilliary role, regardless of whether they get the money or not.

The generals in the Pentagon cannot help but realize that, no matter how they arm the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries and train the armies of Washington's satellites in Central America, the contras and the dictatorial regimes cannot be relied on. The troops of the repressive regimes in El Salvador and Guatemala are steadily yielding to the guerrillas and survival is becoming their main consideration. Little hope can be pinned on Honduras alone. So there remains only the last resort -- direct American intervention. The exercises constantly being held in Honduras suggest strongly that developments are heading in that direction.

One does not have to be a military expert to understand that, by their nature, almost all operations carried out during these exercises are nothing but rehearsals for possible combat on Nicaraguan territory. It was reported recently, for instance, that American naval transport ships with tanks and armoured personnel carriers had arrived at San Lorenzo, a port on the Pacific coast of Honduras in Fonseca Bay, 50 kilometers from the Nicaraguan border.

Look at the map and you will see that the idea is to use this armoured fist to strike a blow from the northwest to supplement an offensive from the east, from the direction of Nicaragua's Caribbean coast. It is planned to land a big contingent of troops in the dense jungle of the sparsely populated Zelaya Department. It would seize a large chunk of territory, link up with the troops advancing from the northwest and cut it off from the rest of the country. The seizure of the coastal area of Zelaya Department is to be rehearsed during the Universal Track exercises on the Caribbean coast of Honduras with terrain and natural conditions resembling those in Zelaya.

After that, presumably, the operation would be continued according to a scenario drawn up recently in San Jose, the capital of Costa Rica, where a coordinated Nicaraguan opposition has been formed, under CIA supervision, of nine counterrevolutionary groupings. On the basis of this "opposition" a puppet government would be formed from among former Somozists and other counterrevolutionary scum. Washington would immediately "recognize" it and sever diplomatic relations with Nicaragua. Statements to this effect have already been made by White House officials. Then Washington would rush to the new "government's" assistance, at its "request," of course.

It must be emphasized again and again that none of these are hypothetical projects. Retired Rear Admiral Gene LaRocque, who directs the Centre for Defence Information, wrote in the NEW YORK TIMES back in November 1984: "Everything is in place: plans made, troops trained. ... Two years of exercise in Central America have adequately familiarized the services with the terrain and waters offshore. Logistical support from the seven airfields the United States has built just north, in Honduras, would fuel, feed and arm our troops with relative ease."

While U.S. diplomats indulged in peace-loving phraseology, military experts worked out that successful intervention would require 100,000 troops and cost $2,608 million (plus $1,938 million to support the invasion force and supply the occupation troops). They also determined the length of the war (about five years), the losses in killed and wounded, combat planes and other military hardware.

True, the conclusions drawn by the authors of such studies will hardly inspire anyone harbouring plans of military adventures against Nicaragua. Such action, they warn, would set the United States on a difficult road that it would be hard to abandon and hard to reach the end of. One should not forget that a person who fights for his country is not an interventionist, that his strength is multiplied tenfold by the realization that he is fighting for a just cause and that all progressive mankind is behind him. Will this be understood by the men now at the helm of politics in the United States?

FURTHER ON DPRK MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE

PM191544 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 19 Apr 85 p 3

["Own Information" report: "Deep Roots of Friendship"]

[Text] Kim Yong-nam, member of the Workers Party of Korea (WPK) Central Committee Politburo, vice premier of the DPRK State Administration Council, and DPRK foreign minister, met with Soviet and Korean journalists at the USSR Foreign Ministry press center. The guest talked about the successes of his republic's working people in socio-economic development, stressing the importance of cooperation with the Soviet people. He pointed out that friendship between our countries' peoples has deep historical roots. "We Koreans," Kim Yong-nam said, "treasure the friendship with the Soviet people and will make every effort to further strengthen and develop it."

In his address the DPRK foreign minister paid a great deal of attention to the significant upcoming event -- the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascist Germany and militarist Japan. The holiday coincides with a glorious milestone in the Korean people's history -- liberation from oppression by the Japanese occupiers. The heroic Soviet Army played a decisive part in the rout of the forces of Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism. We revere the Soviet troops' exploit and have erected a monument to it in Pyongyang.

In reply to a SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA correspondent's question about the immediate prospects of the development of Soviet-Korean cooperation in the political and economic spheres, Kim Yong-nam said that the traditional relations of friendship, established in the joint struggle for socialism, will continue to actively develop. A treaty on the state border and a consular convention have now been signed between the USSR and the DPRK. The existing trade and economic agreements between our countries represent a strong foundation for the further widening of cooperation.

JAPANESE-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY HOLDS CONGRESS

LD191513 Moscow TASS in English 1035 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Tokyo April 19 TASS -- The delegates to the congress of the Japanese-Soviet Friendship Society, which was held here today, have declared for building up confidence in the Far East, against the U.S. policy of confrontation and building up tensions. The course for actions approved by them for 1985 stresses that the movement for the development of goodneighborly relations with the USSR has now become an inseparable part of the mass actions for peace, against the nuclear threat. The delegates to the congress pointed out an invigoration of contacts between the Soviet Union and Japan, which has manifested itself now, and adopted a large programme for action in connection with the development of relations in the field of culture and exchange of delegations. The society devoted special attention to the holding of the next traditional anti-war meeting of the public of the two countries, the holding of exhibitions of photographs and film shows devoted to the 40th anniversary of the victory over German nazism and Japanese militarism.

DRA DENIES 'SLANDEROUS' PAKISTANI CHARGES

LD191329 Moscow TASS in English 1308 GMT 19 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul April 19 TASS -- As is reported by the BAKHTAR news agency, charge d' affaires of Pakistan in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan has been summoned to the Foreign Ministry of Afghanistan, and the following statement was made to him:

Pakistan's military authorities have distributed a slanderous statement that allegedly on April 14 this year an Afghan warplane intruded into the Pakistani airspace in the area of Chatral and bombed the area of Arandu. The Pakistani authorities also distributed slanderous fabrications that on April 15 two Afghan warplanes allegedly intruded into Pakistan's airspace and having gone as deep as 14 kilometres also dropped two bombs on Pakistani territory. According to the assertion of the Pakistani authorities, on the same day an Afghan warplane, which intruded into the Pakistani airspace, fired 20 missile salvoes on the area of Arandu and another two Afghan warplanes dropped a bomb in that area of Pakistan.

After a thorough and comprehensive study of the question the Afghan authorities considered those assertions as groundless, being not in accordance with reality, and categorically turn down those assertions. They demand that the Pakistani side should put an end to spreading such groundless statements.

KARMAL ADDRESSES RALLY IN SUPPORT OF LOYA JIRGA

LD211219 Moscow TASS in English 1000 GMT 21 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul April 21 TASS -- Thousands of people, including employees of government factories and institutions, representatives of the Kabul population and envoys from different Afghan provinces, attended a rally in Kabul in support of the upcoming Loya Jirga, the supreme council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

Speaking at the meeting, Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, wished the Loya Jirga delegates and all Afghans happiness and prosperity. The supreme council, he said, is being convened in line with the will of millions of Afghan citizens. This forum, which will be held in conditions of genuine freedom and democracy, is called upon to play an important role in the struggle to put an end to imperialist aggression against free Afghanistan, to help strengthen peace and security in this country, and to demonstrate the indestructive unity of all Afghan people.

The historic decision which will be taken by the Loya Jirga, Babrak Karmal said, will become a guide for action for the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the revolutionary government in their further work.

Democratic Afghanistan, he said, is an independent and free country enjoying a high prestige on the international scene. The PDPA and the revolutionary government today are working to consolidate the country's political and economic independence and ensure peace and genuine democracy based on the will of the millions of fellow countrymen.

Babrak Karmal spoke highly of the Soviet Union's fraternal internationalist assistance to Afghanistan with repulsing the imperialist aggression and building a bright future in this country. He stressed the major importance of Afghan-Soviet friendship which is deeply rooted in history.

The Presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, BAKHTAR news agency reported, resolved to hold the Loya Jirga in Kabul on April 23, 1985.

INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL VISITS DRA

PM180832 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "India-DRA: Strengthening Ties"]

[Text] Kabul, 15 Apr -- BAKHTAR has released the text of a press statement published at the end of the visit to the DRA by R. Bhandari, secretary of the Indian Foreign Ministry.

The statement says that R. Bhandari made a friendly visit to the DRA 12-13 April. He was received by B. Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, and S.A. Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and prime minister of the DRA. R. Bhandari presented B. Karmal and S.A. Keshtmand with greetings letters from the Indian prime minister in which he expresses the hope that this visit will serve to further strengthen the close friendly ties existing between Afghanistan and India.

S.M. Dost, DRA foreign minister, and R. Bhandari had a broad exchange of opinions on international problems, events in the region, and Afghan-Indian relations, and also held talks on bilateral cooperation and the work of the Afghan-Indian Joint Commission on Economic and Technical Cooperation.

GANDHI, DRA FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSS TIES

LD201315 Moscow TASS in English 1245 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] New Delhi April 20 TASS -- Today Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi of India received Shah Mohammad Dost, minister of foreign affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan (DRA), who is heading a delegation of Afghanistan here at the current extraordinary meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement on Namibia.

The situation in the region and questions of bilateral relations were discussed during the conversation. The leader of the Afghan delegation reaffirmed the striving of the government of the DRA for holding direct talks with Pakistan without preconditions with a view to settling the problems connnected with the situation around Afghanistan. He expressed gratitude to the government and people of India for the offered assistance in the implementation of the DRA's first five-year socio-economic development plan which begins this year.

PRESIDIUM, SRI LANKAN PRESIDENT EXCHANGE CABLES

PM201924 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has sent J.R. Jayewardene, president of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, a telegram conveying to him and to the entire Sri Lankan people congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of the 37th anniversary of the country's independence.

In a reply telegram the Sri Lankan president offered to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium sincere gratitude for the warm congratulations and best wishes on behalf of the government and people and on his own behalf and wished the Soviet people lasting peace, progress, and prosperity.

DOLGIKH, SRV'S DO MUOI DISCUSS ECONOMIC COOPERATION

LD182053 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 18 Apr 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Today Comrade Dolgikh met with Du Muoi, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Politburo and deputy chairman of the Republic's Council of Ministers, who is in the Soviet Union. A conversation took place on questions of Soviet-Vietnamese economic cooperation.

GASANOV-LED CPSU DELEGATION ENDS SRV VISIT

PM211429 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Interparty Ties"]

[Text] A delegation of CPSU party workers headed by G.A. Gasanov, secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, visited the SRV 8-16 April in accordance with a plan for interparty ties between the CPSU and the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV]. It familiarized itself with experience of party leadership of capital construction.

The delegation was received by Nguyen Lam, secretary of the CPV Central Committee.

AUSTRALIANS WORRIED OVER U.S. 'ESPIONAGE CENTER'

PM181218 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 85 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent O. Skalkin dispatch: "From Australian Territory"]

[Text] Sydney, 15 Apr -- Public concern in Australia in connection with the discovery of U.S. communication bases on its territory, which make the country an accomplice in the U.S. military's shady deeds, continues unabated.

Australians recently, and in an indirect way as usual, learned that a CIA electronic espionage center situated in Pine Gap (in Central Australia) is being used to gather intelligence information on...Greece and other Mediterranean countries. According to newspapers here, the Americans, apparently with Canberra's consent, redirected the aerial of one of their spy satellites.

"The United States," the newspaper THE AGE observes in this regard, "is increasingly worried by the independent foreign policy of the Greek Government, which is insisting on the closure of about two dozen U.S. bases on Greek soil."

Australia, however, has no grievances against Greece. Normal, good relations exist between the two countries. In addition, there are around 500,000 Australians of Greek extraction who still maintain ties with their motherland. So the exposure of subversive activity by the U.S. intelligence service against a friendly country, especially from Australian territory, has caused a surge of outrage and protest.

Canberra's subsequent official reaction has not substantially elucidated the situation. Invoking the secret nature of the matter, Australian Defense Minister K. Beazley refused to comment on the newspaper exposes. He could only assure the public that the electronic and technical facilities at the U.S. military base at Pine Gap were not being used to monitor radio or telephone communications within Australia itself.

FURTHER ON DEMICHEV, DELEGATION VISIT TO POLAND

Demichev Addresses Soiree

PM180953 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Days of Soviet Culture"]

[Text] The ceremonial opening of the USSR Culture Days in Poland has taken place in the Polish capital. Representatives of the public, figures of culture and science, workers, and employees of Warsaw enterprises assembled in the Teatr Wielki.

The soiree was attended by W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, and other Polish leaders. Also present was a delegation of figures of Soviet culture headed by P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture.

Welcoming the guests from the USSR, J. Czyrek, member of the PZPR Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, noted that the Polish-Soviet alliance and indestructible friendship and fraternity were consolidated by the blood shed jointly in the struggle against the common enemy. Culture has been and is one of the most important spheres of mutual cooperation and friendship between Poland and the Soviet Union. The noble ideas of humanism and peace transposed into the language of art have become the basis for creating lofty moral and ethical values enriching the personality of the man of the era of socialism.

The soiree was addressed by P.N. Demichev, who was warmly welcomed by those assembled. The fraternal friendship between the Soviet and Polish peoples, he said, will strengthen and develop and find ever broader, full-blooded, and specific embodiment in political, economic, and cultural cooperation between the two countries. In the Soviet people's awareness, friendship with the Polish people is organically combined with an understanding of the commonality of our social aims and historical destiny. Our Leninist party considers one of the most important aims of its policy to be the consolidation of the unity of the peoples of the socialist countries. "The first behest of the party and state," Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has stressed, "is to safeguard and augment in every way the fraternal friendship with our closest fellow fighters and allies -- the countries of the great socialist community."

The head of the Soviet delegation noted that the imminent glorious dates -- the 40th anniversary of the Soviet-Polish treaty and the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitler's fascism -- symbolize the spiritual strength and wisdom of our peoples, who were able not only to hold out in the mortal battle against the invaders' armed hordes but also to counter the man-hating ideology of fascism with the noble principles of socialist humanism.

The program of the USSR Culture Days in Poland was opened by D. Shostakovich's ballet "The Golden Age," performed by the USSR State Academy Bolshoy Theater collective.

Tour Auschwitz

LD192035 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 19 Apr 85

[Text] The delegation of figures of Soviet culture, led by Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, which is in Poland in connection with the USSR Days of Culture, visited the memorial complex on the territory of the former Hiterlite Auschwitz death camp today.

The guests looked round the memorial and learned about the preparation of a new exhibition which opens here on the eve of the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism. Wreaths were laid at the monument to victims of fascism situated on the territory of the memorial complex.

Jablonski Decorates Demichev

LD201742 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] Warsaw -- Today Henryk Jablonski, chairman of the Polish Council of State, awarded Petr Nilovich Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, the Commander's Cross of the Order of Service to the Polish People's Republic with a Star.

He is decorated for his great contribution to the strengthening of friendship and the development of cultural links between the USSR and Poland. Giving thanks for the honorary award, Comrade Demichev assessed it as evidence of the bonds of fraternal friendship and all-around cooperation, which grow stronger and deeper with every year, between the CPSU and the PZPR and between our countries and peoples.

Visit Krakow

PM221037 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "USSR Culture Festival"]

[Text] Krakow, 19 Apr -- Yesterday a delegation of Soviet cultural figures led by P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR culture minister, which is in Poland in connection with a USSR culture festival, arrived in Krakow.

A meeting was held between the delegation and representatives of the city and voivodship. The visitors were greeted by J. Gajewicz, first secretary of the Krakow PZPR Voivodship Committee.

The delegation from the USSR laid flowers at the monument to V.I. Lenin on Nowa Huta -- a city near Krakow where the country's largest metallurgical combine, which bears the name of the leader of the world proletariat, is located.

The Soviet visitors familiarized themselves with the historical sights in Krakow and attended a concert of Polish artistic masters.

Attend USSR Embassy Reception

LD210956 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0832 GMT 21 Apr 85

[Text] Warsaw, 21 April (TASS) -- A reception took place in the USSR Embassy in Poland on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and the PPR. Present at the reception were W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the PPR Council of Ministers; H. Jablonski, chairman of the PPR Council of State; and other party and state leaders from Poland.

Also present at the reception was a delegation of Soviet culture workers headed by P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture. The delegation is in Poland in connection with the USSR Culture Days being held in the PPR.

Return to Moscow

LD212121 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 21 Apr 85

[Text] An official delegation headed by Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, has returned to Moscow from Warsaw. It took part in USSR Culture Days dedicated to the 40th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and the Polish People's Republic and the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism.

POLISH OFFICIAL MEETS SOVIET COUNTERPARTS

PM191336 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] USSR Deputy Foreign Minister V.F. Stukalin met and had a talk with Polish Deputy Foreign Minister J. Kinast, who was in Moscow for consultations, 16 April. The same day J. Kinast was received by A.G. Lovalev and V.G. Komplektov, USSR deputy foreign ministers. An exchange of opinions was held on questions of mutual interest.

USSR-POLISH ECONOMIC COOPERATION DISCUSSED

LD191110 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1125 GMT 18 Apr 85

[Excerpt] Moscow, 18 Apr (TASS) -- TASS commentator Sergey Zinchuk writes:

All-around trade and economic cooperation is developing between the Soviet Union and the Polish People's Republic on the principles of genuine internationalism. In the 40 years since the signing of the Soviet-Polish Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance, fraternal links in the economic sphere have become an important integral part of the whole complex of bilateral interstate relations. Thus, for example, in 1984 the overall volume of commodity exchange between the USSR and Poland was about R11.4 billion -- R1.3 billion more than in the previous year.

By the two countries' joint effort over this period, more than 150 economic facilities have been built and brought into service in Poland. These are, above all, enterprises in such leading industries as power engineering, ferrous metallurgy, mining, chemicals, engineering, construction, transport, and agriculture.

At present, the total capacity of facilities built under Soviet-Polish cooperation in the Polish People's Republic amounts to 9 million metric tons of pig iron, 11.5 million metric tons of steel, and 3.2 million metric tons of cement annually; 10.7 million metric tons of petroleum is refined every year, and the total capacity of power stations built with Soviet technical assistance is around 5 million kw.

Among the major installations built in Poland with the participation of Soviet organizations are the Lenin metallurgical complex; Warszawa, a leading enterprise in the country which produces high-quality alloy steel; kozenice, one of the largest thermal electric power stations in Poland; ball bearing and motor works; and many other enterprises. Now joint work on the construction of the first atomic power station in Poland, Zarnowiec; of the Warsaw underground; and of new production capacities at the Katowice and Pokoj metallurgical works are being carried out on a broad front.

Soviet-Polish cooperation in constructing economic installations is mutually beneficial and Polish organizations have actively participated and continue to participate in equipping various enterprises in the Soviet Union.

Thus, the Soviet Union receives major deliveries from Poland of complete equipment for concrete production works, chemical, cellulose, and paper works. At present, for instance, approximately 50 percent of the sulfuric acid processes in the Soviet Union and approximately 70 percent of wood-fiber slabs are produced in Poland.

PRAVDA CITES CSSR'S HUSAK ON GORBACHEV INITIATIVE

PM190959 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Speech by G. Husak"]

[Text] Prague, 17 Apr -- In a speech delivered here, G. Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR president, declared that the tasks connected with defending the gains of socialism and strengthening the security of socialist community countries come to the fore in today's complex international situation. The CSSR, as a reliable link in the fraternal alliance of socialist countries, attaches paramount significance to the USSR's efforts to halt the arms race on earth, prevent its being unleashed in space, and maintain the military-strategic equilibrium. Working people and the entire population of the CSSR welcomed with satisfaction the Soviet Union's new peace-loving initiatives, set forth by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his conversation with the PRAVDA editor. If the United States follows the Soviet Union's example and also halts the deployment of its own nuclear missiles in Europe, this will help improve the international situation as a whole.

The Czechoslovak leader noted that the successful implementation of tasks connected with the comprehensive strengthening of socialism is possible only under conditions of steady implementation of party policy, skillful party leadership, and unbreakable unity of the working class and all working people. Efforts must continue in the future to be channeled toward raising the efficiency and quality of work and stepping up the monitoring of labor results in all links, and our system, socialist property, and social order must be conscientiously protected, G. Husak stressed.

TASS, TANJUG SIGN COOPERATION PROTOCOL 18 APR

PM191316 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general headline "Official Reports"]

[Text] A protocol on the expansion of cooperation between TASS and Yugoslavia's TANJUG agency was signed in Moscow 18 April. The protocol was signed by S.A. Losev, general director of TASS, and M. Saranovic, general director of TANJUG. M. Drulovic, SFRY ambassador to the USSR, attended the signing ceremony.

FURTHER ON ZIMYANIN, DELGATION VISIT TO FRG

Bonn News Conference

PM220931 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "USSR Supreme Soviet Delegation Press Conference"]

[Text] Bonn April 19 TASS -- A press conference of the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation visiting here at the invitation of the FRG's Bundestag was held today. The journalists accredited in Bonn were addressed by Mikhail Zimyanin, the leader of the delegation.

Our delegation's visit, he said, is a goodwill mission addressed not only to the parliament but also to all people of the Federal Republic of Germany. The visit is an integral part of the implementation of the USSR's Leninist peaceful foreign policy the main directions of which have been in-depth and explicitly expressed by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the CPSU Central Committee March Plenum, in his interview to a PRAVDA editor, and, with respect to the FRG, in his conversation with Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

The visit by the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation again confirms that the course toward constructive development of Soviet-West German relations is a lasting and permament factor in the USSR foreign policy.

I want to emphasize, the leader of the delegation went on to say, that the Soviet people, notwithstanding the losses and suffering brought on by the war, have no feelings of revenge and hostility toward your people, as is sometimes being attempted to impute to us. On the contrary, Soviet people regard with respect the material and intellectual achievements, the creative potential, and the energies of the working people of your country. We are sincerely in favor of developing not just normal relations but good-neighborly ones between our two countries.

The conversations that the members of the delegation had during the visit to the FRG concerned a wide range of questions. In a number of points, the opinions coincided or were close. However, there are certainly many questions on which our opinions and the opinions of our interlocutors diverge, and diverge considerably.

To my mind, two problems should be singled out from among the problems discussed -- the curbing of the arms race, and disarmament, and bilateral relations.

With the utmost frankness we pointed to the danger, also for your country, that comes from the continuing deployment of American first-strike nuclear missiles, aimed at the USSR and its allies, on the territory of a number of West European countries, including the FRG.

In this context we drew the attention of our counterparts to the latest major peace initiative of the Soviet Union, the moratorium [moratoriy] announced by Mikhail Gorbachev on the deployment of Soviet medium-range missiles and the suspension of the Soviet Union's implementation of other countermeasures in Europe.

Prevention of extending the arms race into space plays the decisive role in the complex of questions discussed at the new Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva. Space militarization would lead to the collapse of the process of the limitation and reduction of nuclear armaments and, moreover, spur on the arms race in every area. The arms race would be given a qualitatively new dimension and uncontrollable processes would set in. No attempt of the United States to pass off its extremely dangerous space plans as defensive can mislead either us or other forces with an interest in stronger peace and security.

We directly stated that the haste with which the West German leadership voiced readiness for cooperation with the United States in pursuing the so-called "Strategic Defense Initiatige" caused amazement and concern. It seems that some figures do not see or would not like to see that the impending space militarization would destabilize the situation on the European Continent as well. They come up with the far-fetched argument that West Germany's participation in work to develop "space antimissile defenses" is necessary to gain access to advanced U.S. technology. Practice shows that these calculations are illusory. However, the prospect of becoming even more dependent on the United States and thus committing an irreparable mistake is quite realistic.

Examining bilateral relations, the two sides stressed the fundamental importance of the Moscow Treaty, the 15th anniversary of which we will mark shortly, to their development. Its core, as everyone knows, is recognition of territorial and political realities in Europe today, recognition of the inviolability of borders.

The practice of the 1970's forcefully demonstrated that we can cooperate and know how to cooperate for the good of the peoples of our countries and in the interests of European and world peace. This conclusion is all the more relevant today, when international tension has been aggravated. That is why we say that it is necessary to take care of the potential of cooperation and trust accumulated in those years and to contribute to the rapprochement of the peoples of our countries on the basis of stronger mutual understanding and goodneighbourliness and the development of political, economic, scientific, technical and cultural relations. Priority here has always been attached, due to objective practical necessities, to questions of security, which constitute the determining factor of our mutual relations.

Mikhail Zimyanin and other delegation members subsequently answered numerous questions from journalists.

Meets Rheinland-Pfalz Premier

LD201223 Moscow TASS in English 1102 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] Mainz April 20 TASS -- The delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR headed by Mikhail Zimyanin was received here by the Prime Minister of Rheinland-Pfalz Bernhard Vogel. The conversation passed in a friendly atmosphere. On the same day the delegation returned to Bonn.

Cooperation Agreement Signed

LD202117 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1250 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] Wiesbaden, 20 Apr (TASS) -- A solemn meeting devoted to the 10th anniversary since creating the federation of the "FRG-USSR" Societies took place here, in the main city of the Land of Hessen, today. Prominent political and public FRG figures, activists of regional societies, figures of science and culture, and V.S. Semenov, USSR ambassador in the FRG, took part in it.

An agreement on developing cooperation with the "USSR-FRG" Society in various fields was signed by L.M. Zamyatin, chairman of the Board of the "USSR-FRG" Society, deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet and by D. Sperling, president of the Federation of the "FRG-USSR" Societies, deputy of the FRG Bundestag.

E. Bahr, prominent West German political figure, deputy of the Bundestag from SPD, director of the Hamburg Institute of International Problems, delivered at the meeting the report "40 Years of Peace."

Delegation Departs

LD211353 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 21 Apr 85

[Text] A delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Mikhail Zimyanin, deputy chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which has been in the FRG at the invitation of the Bundestag, today left Bonn for Moscow. The delegation included USSR Supreme Soviet Deputies Zamyatin, Vedernikov, and Glebov.

Arrives in Moscow

LD211710 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 21 Apr 85

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation, headed by Comrade Zimyanin, deputy chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, returned from the FRG to Moscow today. It was in the FRG at the invitation of the FRG Bundestag. The delegation included deputies, including Comrades Zamyatin, Vedernikov, (Gil), and Glebov.

At the airport, the delegation was met by Comrade Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Comrades Tolkunov and Voss, chairmen of the Soviet of the Union and Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, Comrades Stukalin and Shauro, deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Comrade Mogilevets, chief of a department of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and other officials. Von Arnim, temporary charge de'affaires of the FRG in the USSR, was among the welcoming party.

KOHL ATTEMPTS TO JUSTIFY SDI PARTICIPATION

LD191904 Moscow TASS in English 1835 GMT 19 Apr 85

["Advocate of 'Maginot Line' for Western Europe" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow April 19 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev writes: Delivering a government statement on Ronald Reagan's "Strategic Defense Initiative" in the Bundestag, Chancellor Helmut Kohl of the Federal Republic of Germany supported that dangerous project on behalf of the government and urged West German involvement in its realization.

When reading his speech, one is amazed at how high-flown the declarations are that are presented as the "basis" which the West German Government ostensibly worked on when shaping its attitude to the American "initiative" and how lop-sided and tendentious the "conclusions" are. Let's take for example this utterance: "Every person that seeks an across-the-board reduction of nuclear potentials in earnest...should think of all proposed options for ensuring peace and preventing war." One would have expected the chancellor after that to summarize these "all" options.

But he "limited himself" to only one of them, the American one, without even mentioning the simplest option, which is to come to terms on the non-militarization of outer space and on deep cuts in nuclear arms. In his logic, that is, more precisely, the logic he borrowed from the White House, it is necessary to deploy new deadly weapons in order... to "reduce" the level of existing arsenals. It would seem that Mr Kohl does not realize that the creation of space weaponry would make the arms race even more intensive in all areas just as the appearance of nuclear weapons, far from eliminating conventional armaments, has only accelerated the race in both nuclear arms and conventional arms.

Another argument used by the chancellor in his attempted promotion of "star wars" sounds not just absurd but indeed hilarious, and it is they that "have given an impetus to the dialogue on arms control". To say this is just the same as to sing the praises of a fire that has made fire brigades gather in the same location to quench it.

The "appeal" made by H. Kohl to the USSR "not to take advantage of the American 'Strategic Defense Initiative' as a pretext for its insufficient flexibility on reductions in offensive nuclear arms" shows how far in pharisaism one can get. It is unlikely that the chancellor does not know of the USSR's repeatedly expressed readiness for deep cuts in nuclear arms and its latest, far-reaching initiatives. It is just as unlikely that he is kept unawares about American plans and practical actions sharply to build up the nuclear arsenal.

It is also unlikely that he does not understand that the USSR will not be in a position to agree to reductions in its armaments if the United States forges space weapons. To suggest to the Soviet Union in these conditions that it reduce strategic arms which ensure its security is, as THE WASHINGTON POST aptly remarked, just the same as to tell people: Since famine is expected, please dump all the canned food stored in your cellars out into the garbage.

The chancellor exclaimed pathetically that he is attracted first of all by "the possible politico-strategic implications" of the American "initiative" and that his aim is "greater stability" in East-West relations. Without feeling embarrassed at all, H. Kohl tries to mislead public opinion as he contends that this "initiative" will only help achieve it.

It is common knowledge, however, that in fact the militarization of outer space would not only mean an end to the process of limiting and reducing nuclear arms but would also destablize the strategic situation, spiral the arms race into a new phase in terms of quality, and initiative [as received] an uncontrolled arms drive in all directions. The chancellor thus hurries to share with the "star wars" initiators responsibility for the new round of the arms race, which is dangerous to the whole world, hurries to the help of those who would like to doom the Geneva talks to failure.

The quickness with which Mr Kohl reacts to changes in Washington's tactics is indicated by another claim he made in his speech. As is known, in the American capital they at first tried to "substantiate the expediency of the Strategic Defense Initiative" by its mission to make nuclear weapons "obsolete". But more lately realizing how unconvincing the "argument" sounds, they have begun to drag out the bogey man of a "Soviet threat" in outer space more and more often and present American "research" as a kind of response to the actions of the USSR. Having smelled this "change", Mr Kohl did not of course fail to allege that the Soviet Union itself has long been working in the field of antiballistic missile defense. Some very good reaction he has indeed.

Why did the West German head of government glorify "star wars" and beat the drum for them? The answer apparently is very simple. First and foremost, too many politicians in West European countries have begun voicing serious concern about this dangerous scheme of Washington. And so the zealous follower of American policy rushed at breakneck speed to convince West Europeans that the "initiative" is "justified" and "politically necessary" and that it is needed once again, like it was when NATO's ill-famed "double-track decisions" was being taken, to "demonstrate unity", that is blindly to sail in the wake of Washington's policy.

Second, it is too tempting for the militarist quaters of the FRG to "do away with" the "inferiority complex", promoted by the fact that, while France and Britain have nuclear weapons, West Germany does not.

The illusory idea of making nuclear weapons "impotent and obsolete" looks very attractive to some people in Bonn. The chances appear to be evening out -- if I am out of it, so will be the others.

Third, it is also necessary of course to meet with interests of the military-industrial complex of the FRG, which is keen to snatch its piece of the 26-billion-dollar pie and draw on "advanced American technology".

For this, to be sure, one may go to all lengths and stop thinking of the consequences. The latter, however, will be very sad both for the FRG and for the entire Western Europe. The hopes to "draw on" American space technology will remain wishful thinking since when the matter at issue is strategically important projects, the United States will not share its advances with Europeans. But the colossal additional military expenditures will lay a heavy burden on West European countries. Hopes that transition to the ABM defense's deployment will depend also on the opinion of the United States' NATO allies are likewise obviously futile. The American program will have dynamics of its own just because of its enormous cost. British Labor Party leader Neil Kinnock said that it was only a madman or a liar that could claim that such a program could be held back at the research stage. Besides, the security of Western Europe will dramatically decrease. Having "protected" itself behind the fairly "leaky" triple-layered "umbrella", the United States will be tempted to deal the first nuclear blow. And what will it leave for Western Europe? Not, in any case, the three layers of "defense" but a possibility to absorb a retaliatory blow on the "Maginot Line of the 21st century".

SOVIET-FRENCH CULTURAL PROTOCOL SIGNED

PM180828 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] A routine session of the Soviet-French Standing Mixed Commission on Cultural Ties was held at the USSR Foreign Ministry 9-15 April during which the sides agreed and signed a protocol on Soviet-French cultural and scientific cooperation in 1985-1986.

The document provides for the further development of cooperation between our countries in the spheres of science, education, culture, art, cinema, radio, television, publishing, and tourism.

CYPRIOT AMBASSADOR TO USSR ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

PM181047 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Ambassador's Arrival"]

[Text] Mikhail (Ye.) Serifis, Cypriot ambassador to the USSR, arrived in Moscow on 16 April.

PALESTINIANS EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR PLO TO MURPHY

LD191801 Moscow TASS in English 1536 GMT 19 Apr 85

[Text] Kuwait April 19 TASS -- The Palestinian Liberation Organisation is the sole legitimate representative of the Arab people of Palestine. This was stated by Palestinians whom U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy met on Tuesday in occupied Jerusalem.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation, they noted, is the sole body which is authorised to represent Palestinians everywhere and at all levels.

It was reported by the KUNA news agency from Amman, Palestinians handed over to Richard Murphy a message for the U.S. Administration, pointing out that the Palestinians repeatedly report their viewpoint to different emissaries of the White House, but nevertheless Washington's stand remains unchanged. The U.S. Administration refuses to recognise our right to self-determination and our sole representative -- the Palestine Liberation Organisation, it is noted in the message.

The stand of the American side hampers establishment of peace in the Middle East and can only lead to negative consequences. In the message it is emphasized that the negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organisation are the only way of bringing peace to the region. The Palestinians demanded that the U.S. Administration should stop Israel's crimes against Arab peoples.

Richard Murphy appeared in the Middle East to reanimate Reagan's notorious Middle East plan. He advocates direct negotiations between Israel and a joint delegation of Jordanians and Palestinians not affiliated by the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Adoption of the plan would be yet another step in infringing the rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

'DETERIORATING SITUATION' IN LEBANON REPORTED

PM191334 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 85 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Yu. Glukhov dispatch: "Lebanon: Dramatic Turn"]

[Text] Beirut, 18 Apr -- Events in Lebanon have taken a new dramatic turn. As already reported, R. Karami, the country's prime minister, has announced the resignation of the government of national unity which he heads; it is continuing to fulfill its functions for the time being.

That decision followed a flareup of fierce clashes in West Beirut.

As various Beirut radio stations report, detachments of the Al-Murabitun organisation (the Independent Nasirite Movement) on the one hand and of the Amal movement on the other were involved in the fighting. Contradictory versions are cited with regard to the reasons for the clashes.

The exacerbation of the situation in West Beirut is part of a chain reaction resulting from the deteriorating situation in Lebanon of late. The increasing repression by the Israeli occupiers in the south of the country, the rebellion of the "Lebanese forces" -- armed formations of right-wing Christian parties -- and the flareup of internecine strife in Sidon fall in this category. Any friction -- and it does exist objectively -- not only between the country's Muslim and Christian communities but also within the communities themselves plays into Israel's hands. The plans to split Lebanon are based on undermining national unity.

ISRAEL CONTINUES 'REPRESSIONS' IN LEBANON

LD211324 Moscow TASS in English 1124 GMT 21 Apr 85

[Text] Beirut April 21 TASS - Israeli occupationists are continuing repressions against civilians in occupied Lebanese areas. They arrested a number of people in Tyre, and in the area of Wadi-Jilu they fired at motor vehicles with peaceful passengers. In the Al-Biga Valley the Israeli military opened fire at the village of Karun, wounding several local residents and doing considerable damage to buildings.

But Lebanese patriots are continuing to resist the occupation regime. They carried out a series of successful combat operations yesterday. A mechanized Israeli patrol hit a mine they planted in the area of Rashai. Partisans also attacked Israeli positions in the area of Tyre and near the village of Jubayl in south Lebanon, inflicting manpower and materiel losses on the enemy.

The Lebanese press warns that as it prepares for another stage in its "troop withdrawal", Tel Aviv is trying to provoke internecine clashes between different Lebanese groups. It is noted here in this connection that well-known Israeli "hawk" Ariel Sharon, a member of the Zionist government, made repeated visits to the area of Jazzin where he held talks with right-Christian ultras, inciting them to further armed actions.

Planning to set up a "security zone" in south Lebanon, the Israelis intend to force all Shi'ite Moslems out of there and then hand the territory over for control by their pup-pets from among local collaborationists. Moving to fulfill this criminal plan, which provides for changing the demographical make-up of south Lebanon, they provoked armed clashes in the area of Saida where extremists from right-Christian "Lebanese forces" they back are shelling residential blocs in that largest south Lebanese city. Yesterday alone, the local press says, more than one thousand shells were rained on Saida, killing and wounding local people.

The situation in West Beirut, which was the scene of violent clashes several days ago, is now calm.

SUDANESE MILITARY COUNCIL MEMBER ON TRANSITION

LD191547 Moscow TASS in English 1226 GMT 19 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo April 19 TASS -- Speaking in an interview with the newspaper AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAHAH General 'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad, member of Sudan's Transitional Military Council, said that during the transition period the activities of the existing and found-ing of new political parties as well as the issue of the publications reflecting their views would be allowed. In the course of this period, he said, preparations will be held for elections to the constituent assembly, which will have to draft a permanent con-stitution of Sudan.

'Uthman 'Abdallah Mohammed said that the Transitional Military Council, the Union of the National Forces for the Salvation of Sudan and the Council of Ministers, would take part in drafting a national charter.

ECONOMIC COOPERATION DISCUSSED WITH TUNISIA

LD201125 Moscow TASS in English 1012 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] Moscow April 20 TASS -- Prospects for wider economic and trade cooperation between the Soviet Union and Tunisia are under discussion at talks that began here today in the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations. The Soviet delegation is headed by Yevgeniy Osadchuk, deputy chairman of the committee, and the Tunisian one by Ahmed Ben Arfah, secretary of state to the minister of foreign affairs on international cooperation matters.

The sides will consider the course of the fulfillment of mutual obligations in the field of joint construction of hydraulic engineering facilities in Tunisia and of other economic projects of that country. They will also discuss directions for the development of bilateral trade. In 1984, goods turnover between the two countries considerably grew as compared with the previous year and ran at 36.3 million roubles.

PRAVDA REPORTS IRAN-IRAQ WAR DEVELOPMENTS

PM221041 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 85 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "On the Iran-Iraq Front"]

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Apr -- According to a bulletin of the Iraqi main military command, the Iraqi Air Force has been active for the past 24 hours. Air Force aircraft and helicopters have made 189 combat flights on sectors "east of the Tigris River," east of Basra, and in the Maysan sector.

Nicosia, 19 Apr -- The IRNA news agency (Iran) reports from the region of hostilities that in the past day Iranian artillery batteries suppressed several firing positions, destroyed armored transport vehicles, and wiped out enemy positions and engineering and other installations.

Foreign news agencies report that Ayatollah Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, has stated that "Iran will fight Iraq to the end."

Tunis, 19 Apr -- C. Klibi, secretary of the League of Arab States, has announced that according to reports which are coming in, Iran is concentrating large-scale forces in the regions bordering on Iraq. He expressed himself in favor of settling the conflict by peaceful means.

New York, 19 Apr -- A report published here by UN Secretary General J. Perez de Cuellar on the results of his talks with the leaders of Iran and Iraq on the possibilities of a settlement of the military conflict between those states says in particular "the two sides' positions continue to diverge widely."

FURTHER ON SWAPO DELEGATION'S USSR VISIT

South Africa Condemned

LD201504 Moscow TASS in English 1223 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] Moscow April 20 TASS -- The South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) flatly rejects the new maneouvres of the racist regime in the Republic of South Africa, it was stated by the Secretary General of SWAPO Andimba Toivo ja Toivo. He is heading a SWAPO delegation that is staying here at the invitation of the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Organisation. In an interview to a TASS correspondent Andimba Toivo ja Toivo stressed that Pretoria's decision on the so-called "interim settlement" in Namibia is an attempt to turn it into a South African [words indistinct] and a challenge to the entire international community. Resolution 435 of the United Nations Security Council was and remains the basis for solving the Namibian problem and it will not be substituted by any plans of a neocolonialist settlement, he noted. The latest demarche by the racists was clearly made on Washington's prompting although the United States Administration tries to prove the opposite in order to vindicate its policy of "constructive cooperation" with the Republic of South Africa.

SWAPO is recognised by the United Nations as the sole lawful representative of the Namibian people, Toivo ja Toivo said. For 25 years already it heads the people's struggle to liberate Namibia and has the support and recognition of the overwhelming majority of countries in the world. The armed struggle is spreading to the entire territory of Namibia and inflicting ever bigger losses to the occupation forces. The South African authorities reach the absurd in their attempts to conceal the successful actions of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia. If one is to believe the official bulletins, the number of killed patriots in Namibia already exceeds the size of the entire population.

Along with armed struggle we always stated readiness to conduct talks with the Republic of South Africa on the fulfillment of the Resolution 435 and on a ceasefire. But we will never agree to our organisation being put on the same board with the puppet parties formed by the Pretoria regime in Namibia, we will never sit at the negotiating table with the racists' placemen and will not take part in any settlements of the Namibian problem without the participation of the United Nations Organisation, Andimba Toivo ja Toivo stressed. We view Pretoria's statement about the creation of an "interim government" in Namibia as a new attempt to deceive the international public and make SWAPO lay down arms. In the obtaining situation we have no alternative but to continue and build up the armed struggle for the full liberation of our country, Toivo ja Toivo stated in conclusion.

Soviet Solidarity Stressed

LD211434 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 21 Apr 85

[Text] A SWAPO delegation visited the USSR 16-21 April at the invitation of the Soviet Committee of Solidarity with Asian and African Countries. It was led by the general secretary of SWAPO, Toivo ja Toivo, and took part in Moscow events to mark the 25th anniversary of the foundation of SWAPO. During talks, the SWAPO delegation gave news of the situation in Namibia and of the successes in the independence struggle of the Namibian people under the leadership of SWAPO. Deep gratitude was expressed to the CPSU and Soviet people for their support. On the Soviet side, emphasis was placed on solidarity with SWAPO -- the only legitimate representative of the people of Namibia. It was confirmed that the Soviet Union advocates the immediate granting of independence to Namibia and the resolution of the Namibia problem on the basis of Security Council Resolution 435.

PRAVDA CARRIES CPSU CONGRATULATIONS TO SWAPO

PM191412 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 85 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the Central Committee of SWAPO, Namibia

Dear comrades!

The CPSU Central Committee cordially congratulates you and, through you, all Namibian patriots on the 25th anniversary of the formation of SWAPO, deservedly recognized as the sole legitimate representative of the people of Namibia.

Under the leadership of SWAPO, a resolute struggle has been waged in Namibia for national independence, for an end to the country's occupation, and against the attempts of the racist Republic of South Africa and its imperialist patrons headed by the United States to impose a puppet neocolonialist regime on the Namibian people. This struggle enjoys the support of all who value the ideals of freedom, peace, and social progress.

Soviet Communists and working people of the Soviet Union will continue to strengthen friendship and solidarity with Namibia's patriotic forces and their combat vanguard -- SWAPO.

We wish you new successes in achieving your just aims.

The CPSU Central Committee.

TASS REPORTS 'FIERCE FIGHTING' IN SOMALIA

LD200732 Moscow TASS in English 0708 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] Washington April 20 TASS -- According to a report of the UPI news agency, fierce fighting is going on in Somalia between rebels and troops of the Mogadishu regime. In Galguduud and Nugaal areas, detachments of the opposition have carried out a number of successful combat operations. Sixty officers and men of the government Army were killed and about 90 wounded.

ORTEGA ANNOUNCES STATE OF EMERGENCY EXTENDED

LD200823 Moscow TASS in English 0739 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] Managua April 20 TASS -- President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua has announced an extension of the state of emergency throughout the country's territory till October 30, this year.

The law on the state of emergency was adopted by the Republic's government in March 1981 in view of the aggressive intrigues of the United States which by that time formed a hired army from among Somocistas for armed attacks on Nicaragua. In the years that have passed since Washington has sharply increased the scope of its undeclared war against the Republic. More than eight thousand people, mainly old men, women and children, have already died at the hands of Somocista terrorists. The government has had to evacuate more than 200,000 peasants from dangerous zones near the northern border to the country's hinterland.

In the face of a possible U.S. direct intervention in Nicaragua, the people of the Republic rally their ranks round the Sandinista National Liberation Front and support the government's measures to strengthen the country's defence capacity and to defend the population against hostile sallies of counter-revolutionaries.

SOVIET, NICARAGUAN BANK OFFICIALS MEET 17 APR

PM191410 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] A.N. Belichenko, chairman of the board of the International Investment Bank, received R. Gutierrez, deputy president of the Central Bank of Nicaragua, 17 April.

BRAZIL'S NEVES DIES; SARNEY TO ASSUME OFFICE

LD220659 Moscow TASS in English 0611 GMT 22 Apr 85

[Text] Brasilia April 22 TASS -- The Congress of Brazil has held an emergency meeting to honor the memory of Brazilian President-Elect Tancredo Neves who has died. It was announced that Brazilian Vice-President Jose Sarney, who was acting head of state before that, will now automatically become president under the Constitution. Sarney, 55, was Neves' running mate at January 15 presidential elections. They were both nominated by the democratic alliance.

ANNIVERSARY OF TIES WITH BOLIVIA MARKED

PM191400 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Telegrams Exchanged"]

[Text] The USSR Foreign Ministry and the Bolivian minister of foreign affairs and worship have exchanged congratulatory telegrams in connection with the 40th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations.

The telegrams note the friendly nature of Soviet-Bolivian relations, which are developing on the basis of the principles of sovereign equality, mutual respect, and noninterference in internal affairs,

The joint desire to further strengthen the ties of friendship, cooperation, and mutual understanding between our countries for the good of the Soviet and Bolivian peoples and in the interests of world peace was reaffirmed.

PRESIDIUM RATIFIES CONVENTION WITH BOLIVIA

PM191414 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Convention Ratified"]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium ratified by a 16 April decree the convention between the Soviet Union and Bolivia signed in La Paz 18 March 1980.

CHILEAN FPMR LEADER INTERVIEWED ON ARMED STRUGGLE

PY200140 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2030 GMT 15 Apr 85

[Text] An FRG newspaper today published an interview with a leader of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR]. The following are some of the questions and answers in the interview:

[Question] Why did you decide to form the FPMR?

[Answer] Our front was formed in the autumn of 1983 with the participation of different social groups, mainly groups of young persons. Chilean youth are particularly affected by the recession and the repressive government. Just like the rest of Chilean society, they have no hope for the future under the dictatorship. When we became convinced that the dictatorship could not be destroyed by the traditional political methods, the possibility of an armed struggle policy arose, a possibility in which the people's paramilitary organization plays a principal role.

[Question] How would you define your position within the Chilean opposition?

[Answer] We respond to the consciousness and organization of the masses rather than looking to our own capability. We do not want to be a group of distinguished people who think about voting on the regime in the future. We believe that the people's armed struggle should be in the middle of the masses; the development of the paramilitary structure should take place inside, among the people. Right now we could carry out some determined actions, but we have left them aside because the masses are not sufficiently developed. A political development that tends to become more radical is taking place. The opposition has learned about its limitations by means of experience. However, since political and some military conditions are not given yet, the people lack their own military force to help them transform their social mobilization into an uprising. Through our political-military movement, we intend to make the Armed Forces understand that the people, who until the moment are unarmed and oppressed, intend to defend themselves.

[Question] You say that your task as the people's paramilitary organization is your most important objective at the moment. Can you clarify that?

[Answer] In the first place, we are forming FPMR militias. Our main purpose is to make the militias grow more than the front. By this action, we want to coordinate and organize the different political and military forces until the uprising takes place.

SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM SESSION HELD 16 APR

PM181031 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Apr 85 Morning Edition pp 1, 3

[TASS report: "USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Session" -- capitalized passages originally published in boldface]

[Text] A routine session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium was held in the Kremlin 16 April.

The participants in the session received with profound satisfaction the results of the CPSU Central Committee Extradordinary March (1985) Plenum. Those present honored with a minute's silence the memory of Konstantin Ustinovich Chernenko, that loyal son of the Communist Party and the Soviet state and staunch fighter for the triumph of the ideals of communism and peace.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium discussed the question of THE RESULTS OF THE EXAMINATION OF THE PROPOSALS AND OBSERVATIONS OF THE STANDING COMMISSIONS OF THE CHAMBERS AND OF THE DEPUTIES SUBMITTED AT THE SECOND SESSION OF THE USSR SUPREME SOVIET, 11TH CONVOCATION. A report on this question by A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, was heard. A supplementary report was delivered by N.I. Meslennikov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities Plan and Budget Commission. It was noted in the report, the supplementary report, and the speeches that by way of execution of the USSR Supreme Soviet's instructions, the USSR Government, ministries, and departments have elaborated and are implementing measures to put into practice the proposals and observations of the standing commissions and deputies.

The activity of the USSR Government, union republic councils of ministers, ministries, and departments is directed toward the successful fulfillment of the plan for the 11th 5-Year Plan period, the further strengthening of the state's economic and defense might, the improvement of Soviet people's material and cultural standard of living, and the consistent implementation of the party's long-term economic strategy. The main attention is focused on the intensive development of the economy and the enhancement of the people's well-being on this basis. To this end, the necessary measures are being adopted to step up stable, smooth work by all sectors of the national economy, above all those sectors of industry that ensure that the national economy is provided with new machinery and progressive technology. Considerable work has been done to strengthen the policy of savings and thrift in the expenditure of material and technical resources.

The questions raised in the conclusions of the plan and budget commissions of the chambers and in the deputies' speeches have been taken into account in the State Plan for 1985, and are also reflected in concrete form in the draft plan for the economic and social development of the USSR for the 12th 5-Year Plan which is being elaborated and in USSR Council of Ministers resolutions adopted recently. The tasks set by the country's food program are being consistently implemented -- tasks aimed at increasing the efficiency of agriculture and other sectors of the agro-industrial complex, at steadily increasing food resources, and at achieving high end results. Daily attention is devoted to developing the production of consumer goods, improving their quality, improving trade and services to the population, implementing the reforms of general and vocational education, improving medical aid to the population and health work among children and adolescents, conserving the environment, and ensuring the rational utilization of natural resources.

At the same time, attention was drawn to the fact that certain USSR ministries and departments and the councils of ministers of some union republics have not adopted adequate measures to improve the standard of organizational work, ensure the maximum utilization of available potential and resources, and further strengthen state, plan, labor, and technological discipline, fail to show a due sense of responsibility with regard to the implementation of the proposals and observations of the commissions and deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and have slackened their monitoring of the precise fulfillment of everything planned.

The most important thing now, it was noted at the session, is to concentrate the efforts of soviet and economic organs and of every labor collective on the unconditional fulfillment and overfulfillment of plan targets, to consolidate and augment the positive shifts achieved in economic development in recent years, and to greet the 27th CPSU Congress in a fitting manner. It is necessary to successfully complete the current 5-year plan and create a firm basis for a confident start to the 12th 5-Year Plan, which must be a breakthrough in every respect.

In a resolution adopted, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, while noting the work being done, advised the USSR Council of Ministers, guided by the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee March (1985) Plenum, to increase exactingness toward administrative organs under its jurisdiction as regards the unconditional fufillment of the plan and budget for 1985, the strengthening of state and executive discipline, the strengthening of the thrift policy, and the creation of the conditions necessary for the all-around development of the initiative and creativity of labor collectives. the successful resolution by every collective of its tasks for the current year and the 5-year plan as a whole, and a fitting greeting for the 27th CPSU Congress. To this end, better use must be made of the additional reserves and potential noted in the conclusions of the standing commissions and in the deputies' speeches for the further growth of the rate of economic development, the intensification of the economy, and the improvement of the efficiency of social production.

The union and autonomous republic supreme soviet presidiums, local soviets, and their executive and management organs are instructed to adopt the necessary measures for the fulfillment of economic and social development plans on their territory, to pay particular attention to ensuring the prompt commissioning of apartment blocks and social and cultural facilities and the fulfillment of targets for producing consumer goods and improving their quality and for developing the service sphere, and to give effective assistance to labor collectives in the fulfillment of the socialist pledges adopted.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium then discussed the question of THE WORK OF THE CHUVASH ASSR SOVIETS OF PEOPLE'S DEPUTIES IN DEVELOPING KOLKHOZ AND COOPERATIVE TRADE IN CITIES AND INDUSTRIAL CENTERS. It was noted in the report by A.P. Petrov, chairman of the Chuvash ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the supplementary report of the chambers' standing commissions on consumer goods and services to the population which was delivered by Deputy I.T. Taranov, and the speeches of participants in the session that the republic's soviets, under the leadership of party organs, fulfilling the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent plenums of the CPSU Central Committee, are doing some work to develop kolkhoz and cooperative trade with a view to satisfying more fully the population's demand for food products. In the first 4 years of the 5-year plan there was a marked increase in the volume of trade turnover at enterprises of the republic's potrebsoyuz as regards the sale of agricultural products. A good reputation has been earned by stores which have opened near or actually at industrial enterprises. The output of produce from citizens' personal subsidiary plots is growing. Questions of the development of kolkhoz and cooperative trade are discussed at sessions of the supreme soviet, local soviets, ispolkoms, and standing commissions.

At the same time it was stressed that the Chuvash ASSR soviets are far from making full use of the republic's rich potential and their own powers for the successful resolution of these questions. State and cooperative organs do not pay due attention to important sources of additional food supplies to the population. The increase in output on citizens' personal subsidiary plots is not leading to increased sales of agricultural products at kolkhoz markets in the cities. For 2 years, the trade turnover plan has not been fulfilled by the consumer cooperative system as regards the sale of agricultural products purchased at agreed prices.

In many places, work to establish what marketable produce is available on citizens' personal subsidiary plots and at truck farming and orchard associations and to conclude and fulfill contracts is badly organized. The proper measures have not been established to expand the involvement of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises in trade at the markets or to increase their sales of produce to the consumer cooperative system. The cooperative workers do not do enough to buy produce from remote regions.

Insufficient attention is devoted in the republic to the expansion and strengthening of the material and technical base of kolkhoz and urban cooperative trade. The network of urban cooperative trade stores is developing only slowly.

In the resolution adopted, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium instructed the Chuvash ASSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers, the republican Potrebsoyuz, and local soviets to adopt practical measures to eliminate these shortcomings. They are instructed to ensure the fuller mobilization of local resources, to make wider use of the potential and reserves of citizens' personal subsidiary plots and the kolkhoz-cooperative and state sectors of the economy to satisfy the population's demand for food products, and to improve the organization of kolkhoz and cooperative trade and improve its standard. The role and responsibility of city, rayon, settlement, and rural soviets and their organs and deputies in this matter must be stepped up.

The Chuvash ASSR Council of Ministers, the republican Potrebsoyuz, and the local soviet ispolkoms are instructed to step up the work of kolkhoz markets and consumer cooperative organizations in connection with the concluding and implementation of contracts with the owners of personal subsidiary plots, with members of orchard and truck farming associations, and with kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Fuller use must be made of moral and material incentives to ensure an increase in the volume of food purchases and to this end reciprocal sales of industrial goods must be expanded.

It is necessary to step up the monitoring of the fulfillment of plans for the construction, modernization, equipping, and repair of kolkhoz and cooperative trade facilities in cities and industrial centers and of procurement organizations and to seek the full assimilation of the resources allocated for these purposes and the prompt commissioning of these facilities.

The union republic supreme soviet presidiums and councils of ministers, the USSR Ministry of Trade, and the Tsentrosoyuz must adopt measures to increase the responsibility of soviet and economic organs for improving kolkhoz and cooperative trade in cities and industrial centers and ensuring that surplus agricultural produce from citizens' personal subsidiary plots and from kolkhozes and sovkhozes is brought more fully into trade circulation.

The Presidium examined the question of THE COMPLETION OF THE PUBLICATION OF THE USSR CODE OF LAWS AND PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE PLAN APPROVED BY THE USSR SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM AND THE USSR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS FOR THE PREPARATION OF USSR LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND USSR GOVERNMENT RESOLUTIONS FOR 1983-1985.

It was stressed in the report of I.S. Samoshchenko, USSR first deputy minister of justice, the supplementary report of I.I. Gladkiy, deputy chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities Legislative Proposals Commission, and the speeches of participants in the session that in the period since the 26th CPSU Congress, on the basis of its decisions and the USSR Constitution, considerable work has been done to develop and improve existing legislation aimed at further improving the leadership of the national economy, strengthening safeguards on citizens' rights, and reinforcing the legal basis of state and public life.

A major milestone in this work was the completion of preparations for the publication of the USSR Code of Laws. In this connection a large number of legal acts and norms have been systematized, updated, and brought into line with current requirements. The code's publication will help to make legislation more accessible and well ordered.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium noted certain shortcomings in the work of ministries, state committees, and departments with regard to the preparation of draft laws. Documents are not always prepared to a high standard. In a number of instances, the schedules laid down for the preparation and submission of drafts are not kept. The USSR Ministry of Justice does not coordinate effectively enough the activity of ministries, state committees, and departments in preparing draft acts or monitor effectively enough the observance of schedules for their preparation, and it still does not have enough influence on improving the quality of draft laws. It was also noted that the prompt publication and distribution of updated materials for the published volumes of the code is not yet ensured.

The resolution adopted instructs the USSR Ministry of Justice, the USSR State Committee of Publishing Houses, Printing Plants, and the Book Trade, and the IZVESTIYA Publishing House to prepare and submit to the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and Council of Ministers proposals for the organization of work to systematically update the USSR Code of Laws in connection with the publication of new acts. The Ministry of Justice is instructed to give methodological assistance to ministries, departments, and other organizations in work connected with the use of the code of laws and to adopt measures to step up the propagandization of Soviet legislation.

The attention of USSR ministries, state committees, and departments is drawn to the need to improve the quality of the draft laws elaborated, ensure their prompt submission and their close linkage with the requirements of society's economic and social development and the demands of life, utilize the achievements of science, and take citizens' proposals into account more fully.

The USSR Ministry of Justice is instructed to step up monitoring of the fulfillment by USSR ministries, state committees, and departments of the targets laid down in the plan for legislative work and to improve the coordination of their activity to prepare draft legislative acts. Certain other questions of the country's state life were also examined at the Presidium session.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS ON USSR SUPREME COURT PLENUM

PM191101 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Apr 85 Morning Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "USSR Supreme Court Plenum"]

[Text] A routine USSR Supreme Court plenum has been held with V.I. Terebilov in the chair.

The plenum summed up the most important results of judicial activity in 1984, orienting the courts toward fulfilling the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee March (1985) Plenum, which stressed, in particular, that resolute steps will continue to be taken to further impose order and to rid our life of alien phenomena and of all encroachments on the interests of society and its citizens and on the strengthening of socialist legality.

The plenum also made it incumbent on the courts to take the proper measures to prepare for the upcoming 27th party congress.

On the basis of a report by S.I. Gusev, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Court, there was an examination of the question of the courts' application of legislation concerning liability for the release of poor-quality, substandard, or incomplete items from industrial enterprises and also for the release of such goods for sale in trade enterprises. The adopted resolution points out to the courts that the liability stipulated by the law must apply both in the case of the release of products of insufficient quality from manufacturing enterprises and in the case of their release for sale.

In the case of poor-quality, substandard, or incomplete products, liability rests with the directors, chief engineers, and other officials mentioned in the law not only of the enterprises manufacturing the production and technical products or consumer goods, but also of the enterprises involved in the industrial repair of equipment, machinery, and mechanisms. The aforementioned persons can become criminally liable both in cases where there was intent and in cases of negligence. It was particularly emphasized that the release of products of insufficient quality cannot be justified by references to the utilization of poor-quality raw materials or components supplied by other enterprises. In this connection the courts were told to carefully establish which enterprises had supplied the poor-quality raw materials or components and decide the question of the liability of the people responsible for that.

Liability for releasing poor-quality, substandard, or incomplete articles for sale applies irrespective of whether they arrived in that condition from the enterprises that manufactured them or were damaged in the store, shopping center, warehouse, or section. It is a criminal act merely to release such goods for sale; they do not have to be actually sold.

When settling disputes that arise in connection with the sale of insufficient quality goods the courts must bear in mind that, in acordance with the existing legislation, the following methods of satisfying claims by purchasers are permissible: the replacement of the purchases article with another of the proper quality; a corresponding reduction in the purchase price; the elimination of any defects in the article free of charge or reimbursement of the purchaser for the correction of any defects; and the cancellation of the contract of sale, the purchaser being reimbursed for any losses.

In cases where an article sold through a retail trade enterprise carries a guarantee, the vendor is obliged, within the guarantee period, to eliminate any defects in the article free of charge, or to replace it with an article of the proper quality, or to take it back and return the purchaser his money. The purchaser also has the right to demand a replacement article or the return of it to the vendor together with the cancellation of the sale contract if the workshop or manufacturing enterprise responsible for the guarantee has failed to eliminate the defect by a certain date. If a design fault or hidden production fault is found in an article after the guarantee has expired the purchaser has the right to claim damages from the manufacturer.

The plenum also resolved a number of questions connected with compensation for material losses suffered by kolkhozes and interkolkhoz and state-kolkhoz enterprises as a result of supplies of poor-quality agricultural equipment, fertilizers, or other material and technical facilities and also as a result of poor quality repairs of tractors, trucks, agricultural machinery, and equipment.

On the basis of the report by Ye.A. Smolentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Court, there was an examination of the question of the courts' application of legislation regulating the review, in the exercise of supervisory power, of judicial decisions on criminal cases that have come into effect. This review can be carried out by the presidiums of oblast, kray, and city courts and autonomous republics' supreme courts and by judicial collegiums, presidiums, and plenums of union republics' supreme courts on appeals by persons mentioned in the law.

The successful solution of the tasks of Soviet criminal procedure depends to a considerable extent on the standard of the work done by these courts. The tasks are to discover crimes quickly and fully, find out who is responsible for them, and ensure the correct application of the law so that anyone who commits a crime receives his just punishment, and no innocent person is prosecuted and convicted. The examination of criminal cases in the context of the exercise of supervisory power is an important method of eliminating and preventing judicial errors and guarantees the observance of socialist legality and protection of society's interests and citizens' rights and freedoms.

The plenum pointed out to courts with supervisory authority the need to pay more attention to citizens' complaints about judicial decisions in criminal cases. If the arguments adduced in the complaint give rise to any doubt about the legality or validity of the sentence, the court must obtain the record of the case and compare the evidence that has been assembled in it with the arguments in the complaint. If the complaint is turned down the applicant must be given a well-reasoned reply.

When examining an appeal against the judicial decisions in a case a court with supervisory authority must check their legality and validity in respect of all the people who have been convicted and all the charges made against them, and not only within the terms of the appeal and the people named in it. If the case is dismissed for want of proof that the convicted person was involved in the crime, the court with supervisory authority must send the case to the prosecutor for steps to be taken to establish against whom criminal proceedings should be instituted.

Courts with supervisory authority were told to increase supervision of the application of legislation and to react more sharply to errors and violations of the law, bringing them to the attention of the relevant courts, prosecutor's offices, and investigation organs by issuing interlocutory orders.

In connection with the report by the USSR Supreme Court member V.S. Vodovozov, there was an examination of the question of the court's application of legislation when settling disputes arising out of the conclusion, alteration, or cancellation of economic contracts involving kolkhozes, interkolkhoz or state-kolkhoz enterprises, organizations, or associations.

The plenum noted that when examining these cases the courts should proceed on the basis of the need to develop cooperation between the sides in achieving the end result--the output of the requisite quantity and range of high-quality agricultural products.

It was pointed out to the courts that if a contract has to be concluded on the basis of a plan target that is binding for both sides, then the court, when hearing any dispute arising out of negotiations for the contract, must decide whether to compel the respondent to conclude the contract and, if so, indicate on what terms it should be concluded and for what period.

If the refusal to conclude the treaty is motivated by the fact that the requirements or the production potential for the fulfillment of the plan target have not been taken into consideration, the competent bodies having thus been asked to revise the target, the court will suspend the hearing of the case until this matter has been settled.

If an interkolkhoz or state-kolkhoz enterprise, organization, or association refuses to receive products or services and to conclude a contract that is not based on a plan target that is binding for both sides, the other party's demand for compulsory conclusion of the contract cannot be met.

In order to maintain the rule of law on economic relationships, the court, when settling disputes, must check whether the content of the contract corresponds to the demands of legislation and the plan target, as well as the aims envisaged by the rules or regulations governing the activity of the kolkhoz, interkolkhoz or state-kolkhoz enterprise, organization, or association. Having established that the contract or some of its points contradict the demands of legislation or the plan target, the court will declare them invalid and, if necessary, bring them into line with the demands.

If, before appealing to the court, the sides have not discussed the differences of opinion in connection with the conclusion of the treaty, the judge has the right, as a means of preparing the case of judicial investigation, to order them to examine the differences themselves and take steps to settle them. If necessary, the judge can ask the relevant plan-regulation and other competent bodies (the agricultural administration of the relevant ispolkom, rayon agro-industrial association, and so forth) to discuss the differences.

When examining differences over dates for the discharge of contract commitments, the court, having taken the sides' arguments into account, can specify the plan target deadlines, taking into account seasonal fluctuation, climatic conditions, the time when agricultural crops ripen, the need to ensure regular production, and so forth.

When settling differences over the terms of a contract on the quality of products, work, or services, courts must bear in mind that the products, work results, and services must meet certain standards and technical specifications, accord with certain standard models and other documents relating to technical normatives, and meet the demands of health and veterinary regulations.

As a follow-up measure reports were delivered by R.A. Simson, chairman of the Estonian SSR Supreme Court, and S.B. Romazin, member of the USSR Supreme Court, on Estonian SSR Courts' progress in fulfilling the USSR Supreme Court 25 June 1976 Resolution "On Courts' Application of Legislation on Combating Recidivism."

The plenum noted that the republic's courts are by and large carrying out the instructions on the strict punishment of recidivists who stubbornly refuse to mend their ways. At the same time, there are still various shortcomings and omissions in their work. The plenum made it incumbent on the courts to pay special attention to ascertaining the cause of the conditions contributing to recidivism and to make interlocutory orders in response to cases where officials have failed to fulfill their obligation to help people with criminal records to find work and somewhere to live.

When examining cases involving second offenses and when carrying out preventive measures, courts are ordered to use all legal methods of preventing drunkenness and alcoholism and forcing chronic alcoholics to undergo treatment for alcoholism and strive to eliminate omissions by officials who have failed to take prompt steps to put a stop to drunkenness and violation of labor discipline at the production unit; in every case where minors have become involved in hard drinking or have been made drunk, the proper action should be taken against the people responsible for this. It was pointed out that stricter supervision is needed of the courts' application of legislation on the release of people from places of detention conditional on their taking a job in order to avoid instances of the invalid application of the legislation to people who have not mended their ways.

On the suggestion of the USSR general prosecutor there was an examination of certain matters pertaining to the application of legislation envisaging liability for persistent refusal to obey the demands of the corrective labor institution administration on the part of the people serving sentences in places of detention. The courts were given the relevant instructions.

The plenum also considered appeals by the USSR Supreme Court chairman and USSR general prosecutor in civil and criminal cases. The resolutions adopted on them direct the courts to ensure all-around protection of citizens' rights and legitimate interests, step up the struggle against theft of socialist property, fraudulent accounting, bribery, and other serious crimes, and unswervingly observe legislation on labor and state discipline. USSR General Prosecutor A.M. Rekunkov and USSR Justice Minister B.V. Kravtsov participated in the plenum's work. G.I. Vashchenko, USSR minister of trade, and I.I. Isayev, deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Standards, contributed to the discussion of the question of the application of legislation on liability for the output of poor-quality products and for releasing them for sale.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL ON PARTY EDUCATION WORK

PM191001 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Apr 85 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Effectiveness of Education"]

[Excerpt] The more complex and the larger the tasks facing us become, the greater grows the role played by the living creativity of the people's masses, by their labor and political activeness, and by their ideological commitment. This is why our party links the struggle to accelerate the country's socioeconomic development and improve all aspects of society's life increasingly closely with the comprehensive enhancement of public awareness and the reinforcement of Soviet people's ideological, political, and moral tempering.

"The effectiveness of educational work," it was noted at the CPSU Central Committee March (1985) Plenum, "is manifested primarily in the way workers, kolkhoz members, and the intelligentsia participate in the solution of large and small problems, in the way they work, and in the way they combat shortcomings. Enhancing the labor and social activeness of Soviet people, strengthening discipline, and inculcating patriotism and internationalism -- these are important tasks of all ideological activity."

It is well known that the basic ways of implementing them were defined at the CPSU Central Committee June (1983) Plenum. Guided by its directives, party organizations are striving to ensure that the efforts of workers on the ideological front become more objective and more closely linked with the implementation of socioeconomic tasks.

Positive progress has been achieved, but it does not provide any ground at all for placidity and complacency. Much more remains to be done to ensure that ideological work everywhere meets the highest criteria and is understandable and close to the people, in other words that it becomes more effective.

It is no accident that this subject occupies an important position at the party committee plenums and primary party organization meetings that are currently being held. Discussing the questions of work with cadres, the Communists place special emphasis on the improvement of their ideological and moral training, the personal participation of leaders and specialists in political education work, and the establishment of a propitious moral climate within the labor collectives.

There is, as people say, no shortage of examples of skillful and considered organization of this work. In Leningrad Oblast, for example, virtually all leading cadres without exception participate in integrated political days. The main point is that the majority of proposals and criticisms voiced at meetings with the working people are implemented within brief periods of time. Last year alone, the party gorkoms and raykoms there adopted measures on 36,000 issues raised during political days.

Much and varied work in this direction is done by the party organizations in Moscow, the Ukraine, Georgia, Latvia, and Estonia, and also in Rostov, Ulyanovsk, and many other oblasts. It is important to refer more often to front-ranking experience in the organization of ideological and moral education and to more boldly take up everything that is best and nonstereotyped, everything that attracts people with its boldness of thought and provides scope for their initiative and creativeness.

Ardent support for the course of expanding publicity in the work of party, soviet, state, and public organizations is being expressed at party committee plenums, at meetings of Communists, and in letters to the editorial offices. Extensive, prompt, and frank information is evidence of trust in people and respect for their reason and feelings. While boosting the working people's activeness, publicity is at the same time an effective means of struggle against negative phenomena; it poses the obligation to approach the making of decisions, the organization of the monitoring of their execution, and the rectification of shortcomings and omissions with more consideration and greater responsibility. This to a great extent determines the persuasiveness of our propaganda, the effectiveness of education, and the guaranteed unity of words and deeds.

The more energetically measures for the imposition of order and discipline and the strengthening of socialist legality are implemented, the greater is the effectiveness of ideological and political work among the masses. It is the paramount duty of party organizations and all Communists to resolutely extirpate manifestations of ostentation, verbiage, arrogance, and irresponsibility, and everything that runs contrary to the socialist norms of life. To steadily implement the principles of social justice that are organically inherent in our system, to expand socialist democracy, and to comprehensively support, encourage, and promote those who manifest by deeds and not words, by practical results, their honest and conscientious attitude to the performance of public duty -- these provide the key to further boosting the creative activeness of the masses and inculcating among Soviet people the feeling that they are the full and assiduous masters of their country.

A particularly important role in educational work is played by the practical and moral character of leaders, by their personal example in relations with people, in labor and study, and in everyday life. Here there can be no allowances for official position or merit, nothing can be "a petty affair."

For example, it was noted at the Komi CPSU Obkom plenum that in Syktyvkar and Ukhta Party Gorkoms attendance at seminars of the party and economic aktiv does not exceed 60-70 percent and audence participation is extremely poor. Could this serve as an example of a serious attitude toward political study? Of course, those who occupy responsible positions and, for the sake of personal gain, abuse their official position and behave improperly in everyday life inflict nothing but damage on educational work.

PRAVDA REPORTS CONTENTS OF KOMMUNIST NO 6

PM191408 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 85 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Journal's Latest Issue"]

[Text] Issue No 6 of KOMMUNIST, the CPSU Central Committee theoretical and political journal, has been published. It contains a new document by V.I. Lenin, the editorial article "It Is Necessary To Move Ahead, To Look Ahead."

It also carries M.S. Gorbachev's speech at his 8 April 1985 meeting with economic leaders, specialists, and scientists and his talks with PRAVDA's editor and the speaker of the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress.

The section "Our Knowledge, Strength, and Weapon" is represented by the article "Soldiers' Delegation to Lenin" by V. Polikarpov, the article "You Cannot Be a Marxist Today Without Being a Leninist" by H. Schmitt, chairman of the Socialist Unity Party of West Berlin, and the article "Lessons of the Pioneers of Artistic Leniniana" by V. Dmitriyev.

The section "For Our Soviet Motherland" contains the article "Great Victory" by Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Sokolov, USSR minister of defense, and I. Paderin's article "Victors' Banners."

The materials "Rights and Responsibility of the Collective" by Yu. Potemkin and "Competition and the Improvement of Distribution According to Labor" by V. Yakushev are carried under the rubric "Toward the 27th Party Congress."

The journal contains the article "Fundamental Laws of the Microcosm" by A. Logunov, rector of Moscow State University and vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, the article "Horizons of Open Space" by Soviet pilot-cosmonaut S. Savitskaya, and P. Stoykovich's article "We Traveled Together to Victory."

GROMYKO PRESENTS AWARDS TO MINISTRY'S VETERANS

PM221013 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 Apr 85 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Presentation of Awards"]

[Text] On 19 April A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and USSR foreign minister, presented a group of USSR Foreign Ministry officials who took an active part in the Great Patriotic War with Orders of the Patriotic War First and Second Class and "40th Anniversary of the 1941-1945 Great Patriotic War" jubilee medals.

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Soviet Government, A.A. Gromyko cordially congratulated the veterans on the motherland's lofty awards and on the approaching victory day.

The comrades who received the awards expressed deep gratitude to the Communist Party and the Soviet state for the attention and concern manifested toward them and for their high assessment of their martial and labor deeds for the benefit of the socialist fatherland.

BOOK OF TIKHONOV SPEECHES, ARTICLES PUBLISHED

LD192217 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 19 Apr 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The Politicheskaya Literature Publishing House has published a book of the selected speeches and articles of Nikolay Aleksandrovich Tikhonov: "Via the Course of Communist Creation and Peace."

A main part of the book is taken up by materials revealing the work of party, administrative and economic organs, in implementing the course of the country's economic and social development, worked out by the 24th, 25th, and 26th CPSU Congresses. Particular attention is given to problems concerning the country's economic growth in the eighties and the transfer of the economy to an intensive path of development.

GRISHIN, KULIKOV DELIVER WW II HISTORY LECTURES

PM181220 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Apr 85 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Devoted to the Great Victory"]

[Text] Muscovites, as all Soviet people, are preparing with great enthusiasm to celebrate the 40th anniversary of our people's victory in the Great Patriotic War. Their enthusiasm and desire to fittingly greet the glorious jubilee and the 115th anniversary of V.I. Lenin's birth and to successfully complete the 5-year plan was the topic of sociopolitical lectures entitled "40th Anniversary of the Great Victory." They ended on 15 April in Moscow.

The lectures revealed the world historic significance of the Soviet people's great feat, the struggle to maintain peace in contemporary conditions, and the CPSU's role as inspirer and organizer of all our victories and showed the monolithic unity of the party and the people.

Marshal of the Soviet Union V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense minister and commander in chief of the Warsaw Pact Joint Armed Fordes, delivered the concluding report entitled "The Warsaw Pact -- Reliable Bulwark of World Peace." He stressed that the CPSU and the Soviet state are doing everything possible to defend peace, avert nuclear catastrophe, and prevent the violation of the existing military-strategic balance of forces.

V.V. Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom, took part in the sociopolitical lectures.

GRISHIN, OTHERS SIGN ARCHITECT ORLOV'S OBITUARY

PM201622 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Apr 85 First Edition p 6

[Excerpts] Professor Georgiy Mikhaylovich Orlov, USSR People's Architect and full member of the USSR Academy of Arts, died on 16 April 1985 in his 85th year after a serious illness.

In 1944 he was appointed chief architect of Dneprostroy, he made a great creative contribution to the reconstruction of the Dnepr GES, and he helped to successfully resolve that complex engineering task to a high architectural standard and within a short time.

V.V. Grishin, G.V. Romanov, P.N. Demichev, V.I. Dolgikh, I.V. Kapitonov, V.E. Dymshits, B.N. Yeltsin, V.F. Shauro, I.N. Dmitriyev, S.V. Bashilov, V.F. Promyslov, A.D. Dmitriyev, I.N. Ponomarev, A.T. Polyanskiy, V.S. Ugarov, K.A. Akopyan, A.B. Babakhanov, L.A. Kulidzhanov, A.G. Kurdiani, I.I. Loveyko. G.M. Markov, V.Ye. Maslyayev, A.I. Naumov, N.A. Ponomarev, M.Ya. Port, M.V. Posokhin, Yu.F. Potapov, V.I. Priymak, Ye.G. Rozanov, A.G. Rochegov, I.N. Sedak, Yu.N. Sokolov, Ye.N. Stamo, V.V. Stepanov, M.A. Useynov, I.I. Fomin, T.N. Khrennikov.

GRISHIN ATTENDS WREATH-LAYING AT LENIN'S TOMB

LD221001 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 22 Apr 85

[Excerpt] A wreath from the Moscow City Gorkom and Moscow City Council was laid at Lenin's mausoleum. Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow City Gorkom took part in the wreath-laying ceremony.

GRISHIN ADDRESSES WORKERS AT MOSCOW TRAIN YARDS

LD201124 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1000 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] The workers of the Moscow train yards, which are well known throughout the country, and which was the birthplace of the great initiative at which Vladimir Ilich Lenin saw the shoots of a communist attitude to work, are working in a well-coordinated manner. A meeting was held in the depot before the start of this morning's shift. Comrade Grishin, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member, Moscow Gorkom first secretary, made a speech. The result of today's shift will be eleven overhauled locomotives and one locomotive crane.

PONOMAREV, OTHERS ATTEND SCIENCE DAY MEETING

LD192229 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 19 Apr 85

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A festive meeting devoted to Soviet Science Day took place in Moscow today. The day will be marked in our country on Sunday, 21 April.

The meeting's presidium included Comrade Ponomarev; Comrades Marchuk and Smirnov, deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers; Academician Aleksandrov, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; eminent Soviet scientists; and representatives of the capital's public. [Video shows medium shot of meeting's presidium, showing Aleksandrov, Ponomarev, Marchuk, Smirnov, and others]

Delivering a report, Academician Koptyug, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, dwelt on the more brilliant accomplishments by researchers and the tasks facing the country's economy. The Communist Party's line, directed at improving the well-being of the Soviet people in every way, and preserving peace, the speaker noted, dictates the main condition to us at the present time -- the condition of working creatively, at the height of efficiency, and with a clear view of our goal.

TRADE OFFICIAL ON SOVIET EXPORT POLICY

LD191213 Moscow TASS in English 2159 GMT 18 Apr 85

[Text] Moscow April 18 TASS -- The Soviet Union rapidly builds up export of machinery and equipment which finds a steady market in more than 100 countries of the world. This was stated at a press conference here today by Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Nikolay Smelyakov.

Speaking to journalists, he noted that having restored through its own efforts without assistance from outside its industry, which was wrecked as a result of the war which was unleashed by German fascism, the Soviet Union not later than in 1950 was able to export equipment approxiamtely for 200 million dollars. In 1984 that figure increased to 11,000 million dollars, a rise of approximately 10 percent in a year.

There is a broad network of maintenance of Soviet equipment abroad, to which priority significance is attached. There were approximately 20,000 technical maintenance stations, 1,500 stores of spare parts, 371 training centres functioning in other countries by the beginning of this year.

Many types of Soviet equipment have high competitiveness, stressed Nikolay Smelyakov. Soviet-made turbine sets, helicopters, atomic electric power stations, big metal working machines and presses, excavators are broadly known in the world market. The Soviet Union extensively shares its scientific-technical experience on a commercial basis. Thus a unit for automatised production of precise castings has been successfully working for more than ten years now at a "Rolls Royce" plant, metallurgical and other equipment -- at Japanese, American and West European plants.

4.7 million cars, 590,000 tractors, about 3,000 planes and helicopters, 150 million clocks and watches, 23 million TV sets and radio sets, many other commodities were exported in the past decades. Unfortunately, not all request are so far met but rapid development of the Soviet industry steadily strengthens the export potential of the country.

Nikolay Smelyakov noted great possibilities still unused for exchange of equipment with the United States, which is hampered by restrictions deliberately introduced by the U.S. Administration.

PRAVDA VIEWS FACTORY, FARM PERFORMANCE IN MARCH

PM171449 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 85 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed "All-Union Competition Diary": "Keeping One's Word Is a Matter of Honor"]

[Excerpts] Industry

The country's industry as a whole filfilled the month's output sales targets by 102 percent. All union republics and most industrial ministries met their schedule. The volume of industrial production increased by 2.7 percent compared with March last year, but expressed in terms of average daily production (this March was shorter by 1 working day than March 1984), it was up by 5.3 percent. The amounts of gas, diesel fuel, industrial fuel oil, and of a number of kinds of machinery and equipment, trucks, tractors, cotton and silk fabrics, and foodstuffs produced were above plan.

It is the task of economic leaders and party and trade union organizations to disseminate pacesetters' experience widely and make their achievements the norm for all labor collectives. This constitutes a main reserve for further increasing production in all sectors of industry.

However, as last month shows, a number of sectors still have deficiencies in labor organization and are introducing the achievments of science and technology too slowly. To a large extent the production of petroleum, gas condensate, coal, finished rolled ferrous metals, mineral fertilizers, cement, timber, and certain other kinds of products below target in March is attributable to these causes. Associations and enterprises belonging to the Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry, the Ministry of the Coal Industry, and the Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy failed to meet their plan targets for output sales and labor productivity in the last month of the quarter.

These collectives' shortfall has made it more difficult for many subcontractors to meet their commitments. Therefore those who are in arrears to consumers must learn promptly from their mistakes and quickly make up the leeway and clear their backlog. It is the duty of every collective to keep its word.

Agriculture

Farmers are paying particular attention to introducing intensive techniques. More than 10 million hectares of spring wheat will be cultivated in this way this year. Many grain growers in the Altay and in Omsk and other oblasts are making careful preparations for sowing and cultivating crops by the new method.

The sowing area is expanding daily, and we must ensure that we are fully prepared everywhere for the harvest. According to the USSR Central Statistical Administration, 91 percent of tractors were ready for use on 1 April. However, only 84 percent of K-700, K-700A, and K-701 tractors were in working order. Some plows, cultivators, sowing machines, trucks, and tractor trailers have still not been overhauled. The situation must be rectified quickly. This depends to a large extent on the enterprises of various departments of the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building and the USSR State Committee for Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture.

What is probably the most crucial time of the year has arrived for workers on livestock units. Wintering is coming to a close. In the first quarter of the final year of 5-year plan kolkhozes and sovkhozes sent 6 percent more livestock and poultry to the procurement centers than last. The achievements in egg sales are more modest: The increase amounted to only 0.9 percent. Milk purchases were down on last year's figures. The collectives of farms in the Ukraine, Azerbaijan, and Armenia, from which the state received 10-14 percent more livestock and poultry than last year, coped with the testing winter period pretty well. Labor indicators on daily farms varied. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Belorussia, Moldavia, and Lithuania worked significantly better than last year.

Practice shows that there is potential for improvement. However, this potential is not being fully exploited in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. Herd productivity must be stepped up and more produce sent to the meat and dairy combines. This depends on many factors, in particular the care of the animals and the state of labor and technological discipline on the livestock units. Now, when the animals are giving birth and livestock in the south is already being moved out to the pastures, it is more important than ever that order should be up to the mark.

TASS REPORTS COSMOS SATELLITE LAUNCHINGS

Cosmos 1646

LD190853 Moscow TASS in English 0847 GMT 19 Apr 84

[Text] Moscow April 19 TASS -- A new satellite of the earth, Cosmos-1646, was launched in the Soviet Union today to continue space exploration. Its orbit has the following parameters: initial period of revolution - 93.3 minutes, maximum distance from the surface of the earth - 455 kilometres, minimum distance - 432 kilometres, inclination of orbit - 65 degrees. The equipment on board the sputnik is functioning normally.

Cosmos 1647

LD200817 Moscow TASS in English 0809 GMT 20 Apr 85

[Text] Moscow April 20 TASS -- Another artificial satellite of the earth in the Cosmos series, the "Cosmos-1647", was launched in the Soviet Union on April 19, 1985. The satellite carries scientific instrumentation to continue space research. The satellite was put into an orbit with the following parameters: initial orbital period -- 89.4 minutes. The maximum distance from the earth's surface (in apogee) -- 348 kilometres, the minimum distance from the earth's surface (in perigee) -- 180 km, orbital inclination -- 67.1 degrees.

Apart from scientific instrumentation, the satellite carries radio systems for precision measurement of orbital elements and a radio telemetric system to transmit back to earth the data on the operation of instruments and scientific appartus. The onboard apparatus is functioning normally. The coordination computing centre is processing the incoming information.

BRIEFS

VORTEX FORMATIONS RESEARCH -- A USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of Oceanology expedition comprising research ships Akademik Kurchatov, Akademik Mstislav Keldysh, and Vityaz, has reached its research area. It is to conduct research of mid-scale vortex formations observed in the Atlantic, which gives rise to the program's name of Mezopoligon. Large vortex formations were discovered by Soviet scientists in the Atlantic in the seventies. Further research has revealed smaller formations, some 50 km wide, 200-300 meters deep and extending for tens of kilometers. They are to be investigated by the expedition, which has started to place about 80 buoy stations in the eastern Atlantic, about 400 miles from the Cape Verde Islands. They will assist in a complex of experiments to investigate the nature of the vortex formation, the direction and effect on navigation. The results will contribute to a Soviet national program aimed at investigating oceanic influence on the global formation of climate and weather conditions. The expedition plans to complete work by July. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2100 GMT 18 Apr 85 LD]

POLAR WORKERS -- A new shift of polar workers has left Leningrad by air for the Arctic Severnyy Polyus-27 drifting station. The expedition will pay great attention to protection of biological resources in the far north and problems of man's health. The ice on which SP-27 is drifting is now approximately 500 km north of the Novosibirsk Islands. [Summary] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 18 Apr 85 LD]

DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER ON GROUND FORCES' ROLE

PM190801 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Apr 85 Second Edition p 2

[Article by Army General Ye. Ivanovskiy, commander in chief of Ground Forces and USSR deputy defense minister: "In a Single Combat Formation"]

[Excerpts] Four decades have elapsed since the defeat of the most reactionary strike force of imperialism -- Hitlerite fascism. Beneath the combat banners covered with glory, new generations of defenders of the motherland have arisen. However, the temporal link is unbreakable. Bound emotionally to the heroic past, today's Soviet servicemen are augmenting the unshakable faith in the triumph of communist ideals and spiritual steadfastness and feel themselves to be direct heirs and continuers of the remarkable revolutionary, combat, and labor traditions of the party and the hero-people.

In the postwar years, the Communist Party and the Soviet Government have done everything to ensure that the Armed Forces meet the demands of the time and are ready to deal a crushing rebuff to any aggressor.

Profound changes have occurred in the Ground Forces, which remain the largest branch of the Armed Forces in terms of numerical and fighting strength. They are equipped with nuclear missiles, new tanks, mechanized infantry combat vehicles, sophisticated long-range tube and rocket artillery systems, antiaircraft missile launchers, self-propelled artillery pieces, and modern guidance means.

The combat potential of the traditional categories of troops, the motorized infantry and tank troops, has increased immeasurably. Suffice it to say that in a modern motorized infantry division there are more tanks than there were accredited to the tank corps in wartime. Of course, the tanks are different now. They have increased mobility and sophisticated navigation instruments and sights, making it possible to conduct effective fire day and night. The tank troops are the main strike force of the Ground Forces and the category of troops best adapted to rapid and mobile operations in conditions of enemy use of mass destruction weapons.

The basis of the Ground Forces' fire power are the missile forces and the artillery. The Air Defense Forces, intended to cover the Ground Forces and their rear installations against air attacks, are developing and strengthening rapidly. The special forces and rear units have first class equipment at their disposal.

The interaction between units and subunits tackling combat tasks on the ground and the Air Force has been raised to a qualitatively new level. In tackling combat training tasks, motorized infantry and tank units receive continuous air support. The organizational structure, the standard of training, and the degree of combat readiness of the Ground Forces fully meet modern demands. These forces are capable of successfully tackling major strategic tasks in ground theaters of military operations both in cooperation with other categories of the Armed Forces and independently.

In preparing to fittingly greet the 40th anniversary of the great victory and the 27th CPSU Congress, the Ground Forces personnel are striving to raise combat readiness still higher and reach new targets in field training and mastery of equipment and weapons.

The international situation, as noted at the CPSU Central Committee March (1985) Plenum, is still complex and tense. U.S. ruling circles are fueling the arms race and striving to secure military superiority. They are threatening mankind with space militarization. In these conditions, Soviet servicemen are required to display the highest vigilance and combat readiness.

The training process among the troops is becoming increasingly intensive and tense, the conditions of fulfillment of exercises are becoming more complicated, and stricter demands are being made on the personnel during exercises.

Commanders, political organs, staffs, and party and Komsomol organizations strictly and exactingly assess what has been achieved and uphold a work style that presupposes an increase in exactingness in all links and in the personal responsibility of each person for the sector entrusted to him and a strengthening of performance discipline, monitoring, and checking of what has been accomplished. Very close attention is being paid to cadre questions -- the selection, placement, and education of officers and the enhancement of their professional competence, political maturity, and initiative. The interests of combat readiness demand that those who show their honest and conscientious attitude to their military duty not in words, but in deeds and practical results be encouraged and elevated in every way.

The success of any matter, as the party teaches, is ultimately determined by the conscious, active, and conscientious attitude of the people taking part in it. The ideological and political tempering of personnel and the upholding in units and subunits of genuinely regulation order and an atmosphere of cohesion, friendship, and military comradeship inspiring every serviceman to attain the heights of military skill -- these are some of the most important elements of combat readiness today.

In the Ground Forces there are several formations and units known in the Armed Forces not only for their combat services, but also for the skill displayed on major exercises and maneuvers and for steady high achievements in training and competition.

The Irkutsko-Pinskaya RSFSR Supreme Soviet Motorized Infantry Guards' Division is one of the best. At one time M.V. Frunze called it the "combat pearl of our Army." During the Great Patriotic War, the division fought heroically near Rostov, Krasnodar, and Novorossiysk, took part in the liberation of Belorussia and the storming of Berlin, and provided assistance for Prague at the time of the uprising.

Among the divisions whose personnel is fittingly continuing the glorious traditions of their frontline comrades-in-arms are the Tamanskaya M.I. Kalinin Motorized Infantry Guards Division, the Samora-Ulyanovskaya Motorized Infantry Division, the Berdichevskaya Zheleznaya Division, the Rezhitskaya Hero of the Soviet Union Major General I.V. Panfilov Motorized Infantry Guards Division, the Pacific Ocean Motorized Infantry Division, and the Kantemirovskaya Yu.V. Andropov Tank Guards Division.

The personnel of the Chertkovskiy Marshal of Tank Troops M.Ye. Katukov Tank Guards Regiment, whose combat banner bears six orders, have shown high skill in exercises and training on more than one occasion in the current training year.

In improving their combat skill, the personnel of the Ground Forces, as indeed that of other branches of the Armed Forces, are carefully using the experience of the Great Patriotic War. This is being studied profoundly and comprehensively by today's military cadres. Everything valuable and lasting is being used creatively in the process of improving troops' combat training. Many representatives of the Ground Forces have been granted state awards for high indicators in combat and political training and assimilating new equipment. Several officers have displayed courage and heroism in fulfilling military duty. These include Heroes of the Soviet Union Colonels Ye. Vysotskiy and Yu. Kuznetsov and Majors R. Aushev, G. Kuchkin, and F. Pugachev.

The Ground Forces, with remarkable personnel and first-class combat equipment and weapons at their disposal and enriched by the harsh experience of the Great Patriotic War, are continuing their remarkable traditions, augmenting them on the field of intensive combat training. In a single combat formation with the servicemen of the other branches of the Armed Forces and together with the enemies of the Warsaw Pact states, they are reliably defending the great gains of socialism.